FOGHORN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE **F**IRST **O**SBORNE **G**ROUP **FOG**

Vol. III No. 7 April, 1984

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The First Osborne Group (FOG) has been formed as a users' group for all persons who use or are interested in portable computers. Membership is available to any interested party whether or not they currently own a computer. The ***FOGHORN*** is published monthly by the First Osborne Group for its members. A subscription providing bulk mail delivery to an address in the U.S. is included with membership in FOG for $24.00 per year. See chart below for the additional postage required for other locations. Address all inquiries to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474.

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Officers and Trustees of the First Osborne Group

President/Founder	Frank Morton	Vice President	Reuben Sand	Editor, ***FOGHORN***	David M. Oates
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Trustee	Fran Weber	Trustee	Jack Brown	Trustee	John Gaudio

FOG MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Submissions

All articles, letters-to-the-editor, member announcements, classified ads, etc., should be WordStar files, "D" mode (except for program listings), with NO PRINT COMMANDS, and Hyphen-Help OFF. The submissions can be sent on diskette by mail (to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474), copied to a FOG diskette at a First FOG of Silicon Valley meeting, delivered (by arrangement) to a FOG officer, or sent by modem to the editor (408-249-5223) or the FOG RCP/M at (415) 755-2030. "By Modem" is by far the most convenient method. If you don't have a modem, get together with a friend who does and send your file. It will be a fun experience. If you send your contribution on disc and specify the disc you would like, we will overwrite your disc with one from the library.

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Commercial Advertising

Commercial advertisements must be submitted as camera ready copy.

Size limitations for advertising are as follows:

full page: 7″ x 9.5″
half page: 3.5″ x 9.5″ or 7″ x 4.75″
quarter page: 3.5″ X 4.75″

Rates, effective with the March, 1984 issue are:

$450/full page, $250/half page, $175/quarter page

For advertisers who wish to run ads in three sequential issues, a special rate is available. Three months at the rate in effect at the time the order is placed and paid in full providing the ads are run in the subsequent three issues. The Board of Trustees will be reviewing the rates monthly and increasing them as the membership grows.

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Submission Deadlines

All material is due two months in advance of the month of publication. (October 1st for the December issue). No exceptions will be made for advertising material. This change is necessary if the ***FOGHORN*** is to be mailed before the first of the month. Articles which are not month-specific may be submitted at any time. Please, avoid the deadline rush; contribute early.

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Back Issues — Reprints

Reprints of ALL back issues are available. The current cost of back issues is $1.50 per issue to partially cover reprint and mailing costs. Non U.S. members should include funds for AIRMAIL postage. Donations of additional sums will be gratefully accepted.

Not all issues are of value to new members. Vol. 1 No. 1 (October, 1981) was primarily a greeting and a plea for help in getting this group going. Vol. 2 No. 3 (December, 1982) was a 2 page issue with holiday greetings and an advertisement for SuperGraphics. Mailed with this issue was a copy of the original bylaws which have since been modified several times.

There were 11 issues in Vol. 1 since we put out a combined issue for June and July, 1982. For those who are attempting to determine which copies from Vol. 1 are of interest, Vol. 2, No. 2 (November, 1982) has a partial index for Vol. 1. November, 1983 (Vol 3, No. 2) has a partial index for Vol. 2.

Include your account-membership number. Please send the order to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Orders are shipped once a week. The index to the previous year is published in the November (#2) issue.

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Copies of Library Disks

FOG members may purchase copies of the library disks from the FOG office if copies cannot be obtained through their local group. Individual disks are $5.00 each. Bulk orders or 10 or more disks earn a discount of $1.00 per disk. ***Shipping and handling charges are $5.00 per order or address.*** This $5.00 charge must be included with every order. Please be sure to include your account-membership number. Orders without this number will be delayed since no disk orders will be shipped without this number.

For a listing of the programs and files in the library, consult the library column in each issue of Vol. 2 (except No. 3 — December, 1982). The section of the library called - FOG/LIB includes both Jim Woolley's material from the library column and a catalog program which lists the name and disk location of each program (but no descriptions).

In response to the many requests, we have published a typeset guide to the library. This has the descriptions of every disk in the library as well as the guidelines for library use. It is a loose leaf, binder punched volume. This format was selected to facilitate updates. Each copy will be in a portfolio. The price is $5.00 which includes shipping by 3rd Class (surface mail). Update pages will be offered approximately on a quarterly basis.

Affiliated Members Organizations (AMO) may participate in a monthly update service. Only the librarian of an Affiliated Member Organization may make arrangements to participate in this plan. Contact Gale Rhoades c/o FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474 (phone 415-755-4140) for further details.

New additions will be sent to participants in the monthly update service as soon as copies can be made.

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Rebates to Affiliated Member Organizations

Rebates of 25% of the membership rate ($24.00) will be made to Affiliated Member Organization (AMO) on behalf of eligible members. To be eligible for the rebate, the name of the group MUST be on the membership form (or check) when the yearly dues (new or renewal) are paid.

No rebates will be made until the Affiliated Member Organization is formally approved by the Board of Trustees.

Application for Affiliated Member Organization status must be made in writing and must be accompanied by a list of the officers — names and FOG membership number — and a signed copy of the group bylaws. For further details, request an AMO information packet.

It is not necessary that a group be affiliated when the member pays the yearly dues and specifies affiliation for that member to be eligible for the rebate.

Rebates will be paid within two weeks of the Board meeting at which the group receives its charter. Subsequent payments will be made on a quarterly basis. Refer all questions about rebates to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474.

The Board of Trustees has approved a minor change in the rebate policy for groups who are Affiliate Member Organizations. If the AMO has a checking account, the treasurer may collect membership dues for renewing or new members and forward only $18.00 (plus appropriate postal surcharges) to FOG. This allows the group to have immediate access to the rebate funds. Please note that the two requirements for this change will be strictly enforced. ***No personal checks will be accepted.***

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Change of Address

To request a change of address, send the label from a recent ***FOGHORN*** together with the new address either in an envelope marked "CHANGE OF ADDRESS" or on a Postal Change of Address Card to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Please allow at least 30 days for a change of address to be effective.

You should also request that the post office forward any issues that arrive before your address change is posted. You must tell the post office that you will pay forwarding charges since bulk mail is NOT automatically forwarded.

FOG cannot be responsible for additional postage charged because a member delays sending in a change of address.

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Additional Postage Charges

Your membership in FOG ($24.00) covers delivery by Non-profit bulk mail. This rate is only available to members who have bulk mail delivered by the U. S. Postal Service. For those who either cannot receive U.S. bulk mail or prefer first class delivery, please add the appropriate amount (from the chart below) to your payment.

The following is a list of additional charges which must be included with new or renewal memberships effective 9/1/83:

Canada & Mexico (First Class)	ADD...$ 6.00
Members with U.S. addresses who prefer First Class delivery to Non-profit bulk mail	ADD...$ 6.00
Central & South America, Caribbean, & Europe (Airmail First Class delivery)	ADD...$12.00
Asia, Africa, & Far East (Airmail First Class)	ADD...$15.00
Out of North America preferring surface mail — delivery not guaranteed	ADD...$ 6.00

If you want the new rates to take effect for your current membership, you may prorate the above charges for the remaining term of your membership. For each month remaining, send 1/12th of the above rates.

For those with U.S. addresses who elect to continue receiving their ***FOGHORN*** by Non-profit bulk mail, we have some suggestions for improving delivery. The post office guidelines say that bulk mail can only be traced by the recipient but that delivery in the San Francisco Bay Area should take about seven working days and to the East Coast about 15 working days. We are now taking the bulk mail to the post office before the first of each month. If you are not getting timely delivery of the ***FOGHORN*** you should contact your local postmaster. If he is unable to improve the situation, there is a complaint form at each post office. We have been assured that all complaints are pursued promptly.

We are now paying return postage for all undeliverable copies of the ***FOGHORN***. This allows us to better identify problems. FOG will be responsible for costs incurred remailing a ***FOGHORN*** only if the member has provided us with the correct address in a timely manner. If we can be of assistance, do not hesitate to drop us a note listing all of the specifics.

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Please help

It is essential that you include your account-membership number in all correspondence. ***Omitting your membership number will needlessly delay shipment of your order.*** It is **not** necessary to write a separate check for each different order. Consolidating your requests and sending only one check will save the staff considerable time.

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FROM THE FOG

Welcome & Join In!

by Frank Morton

By the time you read this the 1984 Fog Election will be history. As of this writing we don't have any results for you because it hasn't taken place yet. Unfortunately, the results can't published until the May issue. If you can get through on the office phones, you can get a report on the results after the Faire (starting March 26th). In any case, we want to express OUR THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO took the time and effort to vote. We expect no complaints or criticism from those of you who couldn't find the time or energy to participate in the Election!

As I indicated in my last editorial, we expected to have about 11000 members by the time of our 2nd Annual Meeting at the West Coast Computer Faire. It turns out that we have already reached that number with two weeks yet to go to the Faire. It is obvious that we have experienced enormous growth in the past few months. We have more than doubled the membership in the only the last three or four months. This means that over half of us are relatively new members! That is GREAT!!!

So I think it is certainly time that we say WELCOME TO ALL NEW MEMBERS! We look forward to getting to know you. We will be glad to help you in any way that it is possible for us to do so, because we know from experience that each of you in your own way have many useful things to offer us. I have never ceased to be amazed at the variety and quality of people who are attracted to FOG. Without being a name-dropper, let me simply state that we have a number important and famous persons in our ranks. In addition, everyone I have met here is serious about learning to use his (or her) computer for interesting and useful purposes. We are an intelligent and classy group of people. I am sure you will learn to know and like the other FOG members as well as I do.

Now that you have had your official welcome, have attended a couple meetings, and hopefully have acquired some of our great public domain software in the FOG Library; the next step is for you to GET INVOLVED! I don't mean to imply that we expect you to contribute time or expertise that you don't have! But, we all have something that we can contribute. A lot of little contributions, wherever needed, can make all the difference between whether an organization succeeds or fails.

For example; if you are relatively new to computing, you may think "How can I help someone else? I hardly know what I am doing myself." It turns out that if you know anything at all, you can probably be of help to someone. A new beginner sometimes doesn't even know where to start. In such a case, a person who has just recently been through the start up procedure can understand the problems of the beginner better than someone who has been computing for some time. Many times just listening to the problem is enough to crystallize the situation for the person with the problem and he will figure out the solution while he is explaining what the problem is! (Oh darn, now I gave away one of my secrets.) So you see, sometimes the recent newcomer is best qualified to help other newcomers.

Another reason to volunteer (oops, did I say a naughty word?) is that invariably we have found new friends and unknown technical information as an unexpected adjunct to the volunteer effort. As an example, back when we had 200 to 300 members our usual method for folding, stapling, stamping, and mailing the newsletters went awry one month. In order to get the newsletters out, I just called some FOG members I did not know who lived within a 10 mile radius and invited them to a ***FOGHORN*** Mailing Party. To my amazement half of those I called were available that night and came over to help. In addition to getting an earlier delivery of our respective ***FOGHORN***s, we ALL learned things about our computers that we didn't know before, and made some new friends in the process. There were enough of us that it only took a couple hours to finish, but I would have been there all night by myself.

We all appreciate and enjoy the benefit of our diskette library, but HAVE YOU CONTRIBUTED TO IT? (All right I will confess, I have not contributed anything original, but I have cross-loaded some diskettes from the CP/M library). You may feel, as I once did, "What can I contribute to the Library? I can hardly understand what I am doing with the Software I have already."

One solution is to look through the magazines where programs are printed in MBASIC or C or whatever. Find a program that looks like it will do something that you could find useful. Then (assuming that it runs under the CP/M operating system) copy the program into your machine by entering it through the Keyboard! If the program is MBASIC or some other programming language you will need to enter it using WordStar in the N Document mode, or by means of some other Text Editor.

After you have it carefully saved it on a diskette, try running the program. If it doesn't run and you are able to fix the problems, i.e. debug it, do so! If you cannot get it working, NOW is the time to take it to someone for help. You will at least have saved them the time and effort of getting it entered on a diskette! Working with someone to get it working will be a great way to learn more about that particular programming language. When it is working, you can write a FILE.DOC file to explain to others what it does. Just think, then you will have a copy even before the Library does!

For example, I recently purchased a copy of a book entitled "FORTRAN Programs for Scientists and Engineers" and I also bought the NEVADA FORTRAN compiler from Ellis Computing. When I can find the time I want to use the FORTRAN compiler to create some of the scientific programs in the book for my use. Once they are up and running, they would be an ideal addition to the Library.

Another way to get involved, particularly for those who are not brand new to FOG, is to get active in your local Affiliated Member Organization (AMO) or start one if none exists. If your local group has been in operation for some time, your present officers may be getting a little worn out and looking for some replacements. It shouldn't be too difficult to support an existing organization. The hardest work consists of getting in operation and finding a suitable meeting location. Generally the past officers have already done this and are more than happy to help with advice on how to keep the operation going.

Very often the membership of an organization becomes too complacent. They just come to the meetings to have things provided for them. A year or so after the organization starts can be a crucial turning point. The organizers get tired and run down. They feel that they have rightfully done their share. Unless others are willing to take over some of the tasks the organization may collapse due to lack of participation. In a volunteer, self-help type of organization, you only get out of the group what the members are willing to put into it.

I see this happening in several organizations. Our sister group the local Pico-Net CP/M user group is suffering from this malady. They grew quite nicely for a while and had some good newsletters and meetings, but now they are suffering from lack of willingness to participate on the part of many of the members. The 1st Silicon Valley AMO of FOG has an excellent meeting location with generally good attendance. However, we have had a difficult time getting people to even volunteer to man the Board, much less step up and be willing to act as Officers. If enough people would help it would not take that much effort on the part of any one person.

So, WELCOME to FOG. This is your organization! It will only be what you make of it. We each need to take our turn at supporting the local organization. If it becomes an organization of all takers and not enough givers, it won't last very long. So far the membership renewals have been pretty good. However, I can assure you, if there are not

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enough people willing to step forward to replace or help the workers and organizers, your local FOG AMO will disappear into the mist. We at the FOG headquarters have a paid staff to assist in getting out the ***FOGHORN*** as well as providing information and networking, but we cannot keep the local AMOs operating. That responsibility rests with each one of you the members!

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From the Office

by Gale Rhoades

NEWEST ADDITION TO THE FOGHORN

One new item you will find in this section is a phone number list. I couldn't come up with a good column name for it so, for now, it will be **FOG FONES**. Look for it in each issue.

RBBS — RCP/M

In response to the many inquiries, I am including here some notes about the RCP/Ms. First, by the time you read this, I will have FOG Board #3 working. It will be identical to FOG Board #1 **EXCEPT** it will accept only 1200 Baud calls and will carry a half hour access limit. It will not be in the office — for now it will be in my home so if you want to try and catch me on the CHAT line, you will have to call on Board #1. The phone number is (415) 992-8542.

We hope that this will increase the opportunities for more members to use one of the systems. Board #1 will still accept both 300 baud and 1200 baud. Initially, I am again contributing part of the hardware for this system so if any of you are inclined to make a donation, please don't hesitate.

As many of you will have noticed, the FOG library has not been on line. Since access to the library is restricted to FOG members who also supply the money to keep these systems on line, the majority of the library disks could not be on line until we got passwording (cross-referencing the membership file). With any luck, our problems in this direction will be solved the time you read this. The problem with the ^S, ^Q, ^K commands has been fixed. The only serious remaining problem is the Osborne 1 modem which erroneously reads a busy signal as a "connection established" temporarily.

Another problem is that sometimes the system will not let the user log off. Those that I have been able to check on have been when the user reentered the RBBS from a drive/user level other than A0:. Be sure to go back to drive A:, user 0 before using RBBS or SYSOP commands. If all else fails, you will have to just hang up. The system will quickly reset for the next caller. Other than these two problems, most people are finding the system much easier to use. If you had trouble before, please give it another try.

A couple of hints for new users:

1. After the connection is established, press the <RETURN> key two or three times. We have a short delay in the system to reduce some of the problems caused by noisy phone lines.
2. If the system asks you for the number of nulls desired (this comes and goes, depending on what software we are running on any given day), answer 0. Note that is a "zero" not an "o".
3. BE SURE TO CORRECTLY ENTER YOU PRIVATE PASSWORD. And then **REMEMBER IT!** Read the sign-on message regarding the correct number of character required for this password. This password is to ensure that no one else is using the system under your name. It would be a shame to loose system privileges because the system thinks you are someone else!.
4. If your password becomes known to others, use the "u" function to change it.
5. It appears that most members respect the hour maximum use but since several users were abusing access time, we put a 30 minute limitation on downloading of files. If the file you want is a long .LBR file, use the "L" command of xmodem to download that portion of interest to you. If it appears that the 30 minute limitation is causing hardship, we will consider changes. For very long files, consider copying the program at your local meeting or see page 2 for information on ordering from this office.
6. If you are having trouble changing the characters that appear on screen (for example when entering a message), you may have your arrow keys configured for WordStar. Use SETUP to change them. An alternative is to use ^H for the back delete.
7. Please take the time to read the messages occasionally. This is the quickest way to find out about major changes.

LIBRARY DIRECTORY UPDATES

At long last, the updates are done. The experience has made it definate. We will do updates quarterly. It is a monumental job. Now how to make these available to those with the old version?

There are 21 new or rewritten pages in the updates. These new pages are already included in any library directories shipped after March 1st — including the huge stack of back orders we had accumulated. If you have not yet gotten the library directory you ordered prior to March 1st, let us know immediately.

Postage costs alone for the pages are $0.88. For this update, previous buyers may send in a stamped $0.88 for first class, $0.85 for third class), self-addressed 9" X 12" envelope. There will be no charges for the new pages this time. Update pages will not be sent unless the request is accompanied by the stamped envelope.

For those who have not yet gotten the library directory, the price is $5.00. This listing is a typeset compilation of the **FOG LIBRARY NEWS** columns since the new style library was introduced in October, 1982. There are several improvements planned, including directory listings for each disk but these will be done on a time available basis.

POST OFFICE AND DELIVERY PROBLEMS

After an increasing number of problems with the delivery of the ***FOGHORN***s and other mail from this office, we have finally managed to get the attention of the right postal officials. Several plans are going into operation to try and improve delivery.

But you, the members, can do much to imporve delivery too! First, be sure that we have any address changes no later than the 15th of the month before the issue date. In order to get delivery to most members by the first of the month, we have to run the labels about the 20th of the month. The post office will not forward bulk mail!

Also, if you regularly get much later delivery of the ***FOGHORN*** than your friends do, file a complaint with your regional postmaster general. This seems to be the only office to generate any real response to complaints.

Great pains are taken to be sure that the labels are properly printed and applied to the ***FOGHORN***s. The ***FOGHORN***s are sorted and bundled by zip code, delivered to the Daly City Post Office and transported promptly to the San Francisco Bulk Mail Center. While it is still being verified, it appears that the ***FOGHORN***s leave San Francisco promptly. In some cases, we know the delay to be at the local carrier station. In others, it is at the member's regional sorting center.

However, the only chance we have of improving delivery is to present the inspectors with lots of data. If you think your ***FOGHORN*** is regularly coming later than it should, start keeping a list of delivery dates. Starting this month, we will have a box somewhere in the ***FOGHORN*** detailing the date the previous issue went to the Post Office.

If you find that the ***FOGHORN*** is regularly taking more than three weeks for delivery, please file a complaint with the post office and send a copy of your records to this office. This is not a reasonable course of action if it happens only once or only a matter of a couple of days. This is for regular, outlandish deliveries.

FOG MERCHANDISE

There are several changes in the merchandise column this month. Micro Solutions has raised the price of the UNIFORM package to $69.95. This program was greatly changed when it was re-released in late January. It works on all the advertised formats, including MS-DOS, that we've had a chance to test and is no longer locked or copy protected.

It would appear that we can no longer obtain SmartKey and SmartPrint version 1.0. If there is a change, we will let you know. Once stock is exhausted, orders will be returned. Also, some mem-

FIRST OSBORNE GROUP
STATEMEMT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
December 31, 1983
(Unaudited)

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash - Security Pacific	$ 28185	
Cash - Money Market Fund	52545	
Accounts Receivable	1425	
		$ 82155
Inventory - Discs		6791
Inventory - Other		3972
Prepaid Expenses		1049
Organization Expense		65
Deposit (Postage Meter)		1413
Deposit (Rent)		250
		95695
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT		
Equipment	$ 22622	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-3869	
		18753
		$ 114447

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued Expenses		$ 13963
Sales Taxes Payable		163
Payroll Taxes Payable		2228
Rebates to Affiliated Member Organizations		6270
		22624
UNEARNED INCOME		
Membership Dues		48743
Member at Large Dues		8078
Foreign Members - Postage		2534
Advertising Income		2940
CAPITAL		
Retained Earnings - Begin of Year	$ 7611	
Net Income Year Ending 12/31/83	21918	
		29529
		$ 114447

NOTE: These statements have been submitted to the CPA but the tax return has not yet been filed. Should there be any changes as a result of the examination by the CPA, we will reprint these statements.

FIRST OSBORNE GROUP
STATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENSES
(Unaudited)
December 31, 1983

REVENUES:	YEAR-TO-DATE	%
Membership Dues	$ 85202	78.56
Members at Large	17225	15.88
Sales less cost	6034	5.56
Total	108460	100.00
EXPENSES:		
Salaries	22363	20.62
Payroll Taxes	768	.71
Workmens Comp. Insurance	130	.12
Rent	3000	2.77
Advertise	12244	11.29
Utilities	353	.33
Telephone	5415	4.99
Repairs	150	.14
Equipment Rental	1400	1.29
Postage	1262	1.16
Supplies	8082	7.45
Office	2380	2.19
Publication of FOGHORN	42922	39.57
Insurance	142	.13
Taxes & Licenses	3	.00
Professional Services	12900	11.89
Annual Meeting Expense	2033	1.87
Convention Expenses	117	.11
Travel & Entertainment	1511	1.39
Organization Expenses	22	.02
Depreciation	3544	3.27
Miscellaneous	273	.25
Total	121015	111.58
OTHER INCOME:		
Contributions	3634	3.35
Advertising	25882	23.86
Interest	4957	4.57
Total	34473	31.78
NET INCOME (LOSS)	$ 21918	20.21

bers are having difficulty using SmartKey2 on their Executives. If you are using this successfully, **please** do a write up or give us a call.

When ordering, PLEASE, make the check payable to FOG or First Osborne Group and include your membership number. Remember that FOG is not part of Osborne Computer Corporation. The items listed in the merchandise column are not available from O.C.C.!

OSBORNE ORDERS

Speaking of this, most of the orders coming in are from members who have followed directions. BUT some orders have to be returned to the member. Usually, this is because:

1. The member made the check payable to FOG.
2. The member sent a personal or company check rather than the required certified check, money order, or cashiers check.
3. The member did not add correctly.

Since these orders are on a first come, first serve basis, failure to follow the guidelines can result in the item(s) not being available.

Well, that's it for this month.

* * * * * * *

From the Editor

Excuse me. Here is a reminder. **(408) 249-5223**is the phone number for the ***FOGHORN***(editor); this newsletter. It is answered by me or a member of my family — by voice. It is **NOT** answered by a modem. It is **NOT** the FOG information/help number. It is **NOT** the FOG office. If you have been trying to reach the FOG RBBS/RCPM by calling this number you have, no doubt, been frustrated — and are more than a few nickels poorer. Sorry.

David M. Oates
Editor

* * * * * * *

OCC BULLETIN

by Gale Rhoades

On March 14, 1984, Osborne Computer Corporation's Bankruptcy judge approved the Disclosure Statement proposed by the new management of Osborne. This means the plan for reorganizing Osborne can now be submitted to the creditors for a vote.

The plan proponents need a 2/3 majority in dollar amount and a 51% majority in number of claimants to vote "yes" on the plan. Ballots in the proper form will be sent to all creditors of record holding claims of $250.00 or more. If you have a claim, regardless of amount, you are now invited to file claims.

What does this mean for FOG members? I have been asked many times if members could file. The answer has always been "yes". Many have also asked if filing would hurt OCC's chances of reorganizing. To that I have always had to say that I didn't know. Now I may have the information to answer that question.

But first, you should know what the plans for reorganization are. Here I will quote from part of the plan itself: *The objectives of the Plan are:*

(a) to pay the legitimate claims of the secured creditors in full;

(b) to give the unsecured creditors a far better result than would be obtained bye liquidation;

(c) to take advantage of New Management's desire to save the Debtor, their proven abilities and their past success in building international markets for Osborne products;

(d) to build upon the product loyalty of user groups who have demonstrated a strong desire to keep Debtor functioning and able to serve their future needs;

(e) to seek to obtain new, outside capital, including capital from foreign nationals connected with present or former subsidiaries of Debtor, to recapitalize for future operations;

(f) to enter into R&D contracts for the development of technology, and to utilize the pool of contracts available to the Debtorto subcontract said R&D work to the most qualified technicians;

(g) to save the going concern value of the Debtor and preserve the worldwide reputation and product recognition connected with the Osborne name;

(h) to convert Reorganized Osborne's operations from manufacturing to essentially those of a trading company with low overhead, limiting future operations to marketing of computer products, servicing user groups, and carrying out selected research and development projects; and

(i) to enable earnings to be essentially tax-free for a significant period into the future.

This short piece is less than one page from over one hundred in the total filing but, from my reading, appears to be the essence of the plan. With the ruling today, only one major step remains before Osborne is out of Chapter 11 and able to procced with the plan. This is the voting by the creditors.

Since both counting methods mentioned above must be used to determine the final verdict, both the large and the small creditor have a voice in deciding the future of the company. This is designed to assure that a single vested interest cannot control the outcome of the vote.

I have compiled a list of items for which claims could be filed. There may be other items. If you think you have a claim, then file. The prices listed are the quotes I have collected over the last few months. I can offer no guarantee on the accuracy of them.

1. **p-System** ($699.00) — for double density owners.
2. **Universal Terminal Emulator** ($500.00) — for Executive owners.
3. **Unexpied Extended warranty contract. ($285.00 for 12 months) Calculate at $23.75 per month.**
4. **dBASE II** ($595.00) If you didn't collect on a certifcate.
5. **Personal Pearl ($295.00)If you didn't collect on a certifcate.**

If you own more than one double density Osborne, if more than one of the items above applies to you, if you also have an outstanding subscription for the *Portable Companion*, consolidate all the items to arrive at the total you are entitled to file for. If you have not already filed a claim, and want to protect your interests or help OCC gain approval of the Reorganization Plan, you should do so immediately. There has still not been a deadline set for filing so I am not sure how much time you have to do so.

A claim form follows this article. Part of it is filled in. Read the form carefully so that all necessary information is included. You need to fill in one of the three parts of item 1. Item 2 is the total of your claim. Item 3 is a brief listing of the items you are filing for. For most users, items 5 through 10 do not apply. Restate the total of the claim in the box beside item 11. Print your name where asked, date and sign the form. In the comments section, explain briefly why you are entitled to claim (serial number, date purchased, etc.). Finish with your mailing address (so you can receive a copy of the Plan and a ballot) and attach copies of any receipts, cancelled checks, sales materials (like some of the writeups in the ***Portable Companion***, etc. as will substantiate your claim.

Mail your completed form (with attachments) to:

U.S. Bankruptcy Court Clerk
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

At this time, there is no way of knowing exactly how much any of the unsecured creditors will receive as settlement for their claims. Payment will be a percentage and will be a combination of cash and stock in the reorganized company. I am told that filing, and voting, will protect your rights and at the same time, help Osborne succeed. If you have any further questions, you should probably consult an attorney.

* * * * * * *

BOF 15
(Rev. 1/83)

United States Bankruptcy Court

For the Northern **District of** California

In re *

Osborne Computer Corp.,
a California corportion

*Debtor**

Case No. 384-00482-JR
(formerly 483-03456-H)

PROOF OF CLAIM

1. [*If claimant is an individual claiming for himself*] The undersigned, who is the claimant herein, resides at ** .

[*If claimant is a partnership claiming through a member*] The undersigned, who resides at ** ,
is a member of , a partnership,
composed of the undersigned and ,
of ** , and
doing business at ** ,
and is authorized to make this proof of claim on behalf of the partnership.

[*If claimant is a corporation claiming through an authorized officer*] The undersigned, who resides at ** ,
is the of ,
a corporation organized under the laws of ,
and doing buiness at ** ,
and is authorized to make this proof of claim on behalf of the corporation.

[*If claim is made by agent*] The undersigned, who resides at **
, is the agent of
, of ** , and is
authorized to make this proof of claim on behalf of the claimant.

2. The debtor was, at the time of the filing of the petition initiating this case, and still is indebted [*or* liable] to this claimant, in the sum of $

3. The consideration for this debt [*or* ground of liability] is as follows:

4. [*If the claim is founded on writing*] The writing on which this claim is founded (or a duplicate thereof) is attached here to [*or* cannot be attached for the reason set forth in the statement attached hereto].

5. [*If appropriate*] This claim is founded on an open account, which became [*or* will become] due on , as shown by the itemized statement attached hereto. Unless it is attached hereto or its absence is explained in an attached statement, no note or other negotiable instrument has been received for the account or any part of it.

6. No judgment has been rendered on the claim except.

7. The amount of all payments of this claim has been credited and deducted for the purpose of making this proof of claim.

8. This claim is not subject to any setoff or counter-claim except

9. No security interest is held for this claim except .

[*If security interest in property of the debtor is claimed*] The undersigned claims the security interest under the writing referred to in paragraph 4 hereof [*or* under a separate writing which (or a duplicate of which) is attached hereto, *or* under a separate writing which cannot be attached hereto for the reason set forth in the statement attached hereto]. Evidence of perfection of such security interest is also attached hereto.

Reverse Side

10. This claim is a general unsecured claim, except to the extent that the security interest, if any, described in paragraph 9 hereof is sufficient to satisfy the claim.
[*If priority is claimed, state the amount and basis thereof.*]

11. This claim is filed as a(n) (Unsecured) (Secured) (Priority) CLAIM.

$________________
Total Amount Claimed

Claim Number
(For Office Use Only)

Name of Creditor:________________
(Print or Type Full Name of Creditor)

Dated:

Signed: ________________

Comments (Use for additional information):

Penalty for Presenting Fraudulent Claim. Fine of not more than $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both—Title 18, U.S.C., § 152.

---

*Include all names used by debtor within last 6 years.
**State post office address.

FOG FONES

FOG office, voice line	(415) 755-4140
FOG RCP/M #1 (300 & 1200 baud)	(415) 755-2030
FOG RCP/M #2 (300 & 1200 baud)	(604) 596-6631
FOG RCP/M #3 (1200 baud only)	(415) 992-8542
FOGHORN Editor, voice line	(408) 249-5223

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Transfer any text, data or program file type. Save all or part to buffer and/or disk. Simple to use. 300 BAUD & 1200 BAUD. Send and receive TELEX worldwide with RCA TELEXTRA™ or ITT Worldwide. Includes: SYS-LINK™ RCPMLINK™, SYSTOSYS™, TLX-LINK™. All for only $99.00
Original package includes PLINK and RCPMLINK (For Osborne 1 or Kaypro II Only) $50.00
Direct Connect MODEM includes SOURCE (sm) subscription from only $79.95

GAMES
GAMES DISK 4 2D Maze, 3D Maze, Bounce & Lander Programmed in C Basic. $50.00
GAMES DISK 5 Play Black Jack, Goldmine, Space War & Wizdot. $50.00
GAMES DISK 6 Pre-school to college games. $50.00
KAMAKAZE OZZY/SHOOTOUT Arcade type action games with moving graphics. Use with or without joystick. $50.00
JOYSTICK PACKAGE Includes software with source and intermediate file with Spacewar, Esketch and Goldmine. Text file on disk. Also includes Joystick and adapter cable $50.00
Joystick and adapter cable for Osborne 1 Only. $29.95

OTHER SOFTWARE
OSBOARD Electronic drawing board. Create bar graphs, data entry forms, etc. $34.95
OSGRAPH Create bar charts (vert./horiz.), pie charts. $34.95
OSBRIEF Briefing software. Create slide show using Osboard or Osgraph files $24.95
Or order with Osboard and Osgraph and pay only $15.00 for Osbrief.
CHEKWIZ Checkbook software. Handles 1,400 check entries. $50.00
WIZDEX Text file indexing software. Generates index for Wordstar. $50.00
WASH Directory and file utility. Easier to use than PIP. $50.00

SEND FOR OUR CATALOG OF ACCESSORIES AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE ZORBA COMPUTER.

LETTERS

Dear *FOGHORN*,

In Nov. ***FOGHORN***, article: Tony Loveall fix, page 11. Many thanks for the fix on the keys — a great idea.

Article: Alan Chattaway, page 7, item 4. I have attempted to locate the approximate spot in setup as described and my version of setup does have code that is something quite different. So I tried a different version on my brother's blue case (mine, a tan DD upgraded) and his was successful. After playing around I discovered 3 versions of CP/M — all operate OK but they do differ in locations and utilities. I apparently have 2.2, 2.2A and a further edition. I would like to know the difference and how to identify each (the 2.2, 2.2A are easy), so a contribution on this would be welcome to those who who try unsuccessfully to modify CP/M and CP/M programs.

Many thanks for a great [magazine]!

J. Nick Barker
Highgate South Australia

* * * * * * *

Re: dBASE II and WordStar

Let me offer a couple of corrections to Sylvia Tobias helpful article, "3-Across Labels With dBASE II," in the December, '83 issue. The @ symbol did not print for all the "@ SAY" commands in the program. Is there a problem with your typesetting machine? [*Yes, as it happens the @ is a code used by the typesetter and, if they do not properly handle that exchange table, all of the @ symbols are removed. My apologies for not catching this, we hope that this will not happen again. — Gale Rhoades*]

The following two lines are placed at the beginning of the "DO" loop. The placement at this point will give a common city-state-zipcode to each of the three addresses across the page.

```
STORE TRIM(CITY) TO NCITY
STORE (NCITY+' '+STATE+' '+ZIPCODE) TO CSZ
```

These two lines should be repeated three times and placed farther down in the program as follows:

```
STOR X+1 TO X
STOR TRIM(CITY)+' '+STATE+' '+ZIPCODE TO CSZ
@ X,1 SAY CSZ
SKIP
STOR TRIM(CITY)+' '+STATE+' '+ZIPCODE TO CSZ
@ X,37 SAY CSZ
SKIP
STOR TRIM(CITY)+' '+STATE+' '+ZIPCODE TO CSZ
@ X,73 SAY CSZ
STOR X+3 TO X
```

Notice that the STOR statements have been combined and that the STORE command has been shortened to 4 characters. All dBASE II commands can be shortened to 4 characters. This can be an advantage when you have long command files and want to minimize the amount of space they take up on your disk.

Sylvia has missed a far more important concept that draws attention to the value of dBASE II. She states, "I sorted the file by Zipcode to a file called 'Temp'. Then in the command program I 'USE' that file so that the labels will be in Zipcode order." dBASE II has a feature called "indexing" which allows the files to appear to be in sorted order.

cont. on page 10

When using the index feature you create an index file which is sorted in the order you want the main file to be in. This index file is much smaller than the main file since it contains only the contents of one field (or a portion of one field) and a cross reference to the records in the main data file. By sorting to a temporary file as Sylvia did, you need disk space for the temporary file equal to the space of the main file itself. An index file doesn't need nearly so much space. Indexing is also a much faster process.

Let me illustrate with an example. First create your main file, which we will call, "FILENAME." (Once again notice the 4-character commands.)

```
CREA FILENAME
```

Do this as you normally would. For purposes of this demonstration include a field called, "NAME" and another called, "ZIPCODE." Don't enter the data at this time. Next create two index files, one for the field called, "NAME" and another for the field called, "ZIPCODE."

```
USE FILENAME
INDE ON NAME TO NAMEIND
INDE ON ZIPCODE TO ZIPIND
```

This will create two index files, NAMEIND.NDX and ZIPIND.NDX. The first will keep track of the records in the main file in Name order, the second will keep track of the records in Zipcode order.

Now USE the files and enter your data.

```
USE FILENAME INDE NAMEIND,ZIPIND
APPE
```

Use the file in this manner every time you edit, append or print it. The file will be in name order and will automatically be updated. dBASE II will also update the Zipcode index as well.

Let's say you want to print the file in Name order, then print it again in Zipcode order.

```
USE FILENAME INDE NAMEIND,ZIPIND
```

Do your print routine. The file will be in name order. To put the file in Zipcode order:

```
SET INDE TO ZIPIND
```

The file will now appear to be in Zipcode order. The SKIP command will skip to the next record in Zipcode sequence, not in name sequence or the sequence in which you entered them . Do your print routine as before.

Another word of caution: The PACK command will take care of packing only the primary index file, which in this example is NAMEIND. You must index the file again for each of the secondary index files after packing. This is a limitation, but the process is much shorter than sorting. [*Also, you should be aware that the PACK command does not free disk space. Only by copying to a new file name can you restore disk space. — Gale Rhoades*]

Finally, this is for Bradley S. Albom's "HELP" column. In answer to Ron Evan's question about the page length dot command. He has found a feature, not a bug. WordStar has default values of 3 lines of margin at the top and 8 lines of margin at the bottom. When he entered .PL 12 he got 3 lines of top margin, 1 line of text, and 8 lines of bottom margin on each page. Of course on the screen, it looked line one line pages. Ron should read about the dot commands .MT and .MB to change these defaults.

Tim Snyder
Glenside, PA

* * * * * * *

We are interested in the information available through Scanset X2. However, since we own an Osborne 1 we are in hopes that it is possible to hook up the Osborne to the Scanset System.

If this is possible, we would appreciate any guidance you could offer as to where the necessary adapters etc. can be purchased. I have contacted a couple computer stores locally, none of which could help.

Kathy Rice
Las Vegas, NV

* * * * * * *

A Little Bit of Everything!

QUESTIONS. I would like to start this time with a couple of questions.

1. dBASE v. 2.4. I have gotten version 2.4 from Ashton-Tate and am pleased with it. This new version comes, like v. 2.3b from Osborne, installed for the 52 column screen. The patch which has been twice printed in these pages does not work for v. 2.4. The first two addresses seem to be the same; however, the third address is completely different. These assumptions, which may be wrong, are based on looking at the new version with DDT. Can anyone supply the correct patch to install dBASE v. 2.4 for an 80 column screen? [*As always, the membership has come through. Several members discovered the correct address for the third patch and sent me a note with the solution. Another member managed to get permission from Ashton Tate to publish this patch so take a look at the full thing in this month's* ***dBASE II*** *column. — Gale Rhoades*]

2. An article in the December, 1983, ***USER'S GUIDE*** on converting Perfect Writer files to WordStar files says you can use ^PM to find carriage returns using the "^QF" search and find routine. This does not work. Entering either ^PM or ^PJ has this routine find line-feeds. Does anyone know how to find carriage returns? Note- with most control codes, you do not have to first enter ^P when using the search and find routine, just enter the wanted code, such as ^E, ^Q or ^Y. This comes in handy when you want to change printer codes, say, from underline to italic.

[*^QF will search for ^N (^N being a carriage return, soft and hard). Remember the cursor stops under the character following the one being searched. To test this, search for ^N^N (those are entered by holding the CTRL key down and hitting N -- twice). The cursor should stop at the first character of the line following a blank line between paragraphs (i.e. a double carriage return). David*]

WordStar 3.3 UPDATE. Amid all the rumors that MicroPro does not intend to upgrade WordStar for the Osborne, what would happen if each and every Osborne user called their toll free upgrade number to ask about the Osborne Upgrade? First, in order to be eligible for an upgrade, you must request, fill out, and return a user's registration card. If you call the regular MicroPro number, do NOT ask for customer service, chances are you will get a recording telling you to see your dealer. Tell them you want to talk to the upgrade department. The toll free numbers to call are 1-800-227-5609 and (for California) 1-800-321-6253. If, by some strange circumstance, they say the Osborne upgrade is ready when you call, ask for an "Update Authorization Card." Tell them you want to upgrade both WordStar and MailMerge. Once you have this card, fill it out and return it with a check and your original WordStar disc. The Cost is supposed to be $85.00 for WordStar and $25.00 for MailMerge. Earlier versions of MailMerge are not supposed to work with WordStar 3.3.

dBASE II UPGRADE. If you have not heard about upgrading dBASE from v. 2.3b to 2.4, the process is similar to that described for WordStar, but is easier in the execution. You should send them a photocopy of your Osborne End User's Agreement and tell them you want information on the upgrade. They will send you a packet detailing the differences between the two versions and an order form. I also got a photocopy of questions and answers on the use of dBASE. Save this informational material, especially if you order the upgrade! There is no section in the new manual you will get detailing the changes from earlier versions. The cost of the upgrade is $75.00.

SUPERCALC UPGRADE. Sorcim sent out notices to Osborne users concerning the upgrade to SuperCalc 2. This upgrade is available and if you have not heard about it and want to upgrade, contact them at 408-942-1727. The bad news is that their promotional offer is past and the price is now $125.00.

FOG'S RCPM. I tried getting through to the RCPM without any luck. I used the number printed on page 13 of the December, 1983, ***FOGHORN***. The call was answered each time I tried, but there was

➡

never any signal from the RCPM, just a quiet, but open, line. I have seen notices on the Source from other people having problems. Growing pains are not nice and it should be nice when the RCPM is fully operational.

[*I think we have finally been able to resolve this problem. We now have carrier detect working — this means that if there is trouble on the phone lines and the caller gets disconnected, the system now knows. (It also now knows if someone hangs up without properly signing off.) The software is being changed almost daily though most users will never notice most of the changes. We still do not have correct passwording working so more changes are coming but I think that if you will try again, you will find that this problem has been solved. See my article earlier in this issue for more hints. — Gale Rhoades*]

MORE ON UNIFORM. I have run into a problem with copying files using SWEEP36 and Ficomp's UCOPY when the B drive has been configured using UNIFORM. With large files, above 38K with SWEEP and above 20K with UCOPY, the system hangs up. I have to reset, reconfigure, and start over again. Apparently, these programs use some of the same space as UNIFORM in order to transfer large files. This problem, so far, has not occurred with PIP. All the files that caused SWEEP and UCOPY to crash were transferred with no problem using PIP. [*Try the NSWEEP from -FOG/UTL.031 — I've used this with UNIFORM and not encountered the problem you describe. Also, if you got your copy of UNIFORM prior to the end of January, you might want to get the upgrade from Micro Solutions. Some of your problems may be related to bugs in the earlier version. — Gale*]

FAST.COM. It sure is nice knowing that Fast.Com for the MPI drives (the ones with the little lever on the right front) will work with DD. It makes quite a difference, both in speed and noise level (both improved). Place Fast.Com on the Disk with WordStar. If you boot WordStar when you first power up, Fast can be run using the "R" option on the no-edit menu. If you reset your system with the little black button, Fast gets wiped out and you have to re-run it. You will either have to use ^C to reset your drives or rerun Fast with each reset. Does anyone have any comments on making the change permanent using DDT? You would have to change it back if you got non-MPI drives and you would not be able to use your disks as systems disks on non-MPI equipped Osbornes. When using UNIFORM, I have to boot the right drive as the A drive as my left drive does not want to read the UNIFORM disk. If I try to run FAST with the right drive set up as the A drive, the drive starts making nasty, loud sounds which I can only stop with a reset. This is the only problem I have had with FAST.

NOTES AND COMMENTS. It has been nice hearing from some of you through the Source and CompuServe. I am discontinuing the Source. For my wants, the Source is not as useful as CompuServe and I find myself using it just to meet the minimum monthly charge. From now on, I can only be reached through CompuServe. My number is 75735,1306.

Well, until next time, Happy trails to you, until we meet again.

Thomas E. Graves
Minersville, Pa

* * * * * * *

I am presently using Comm Pac for modem communication, but I need to be able to change the protocol to 7 data, no parity, and 2 stopbits. Could you help? The ***FOGHORN*** has a lot of super information in it, please keep it coming.

Arthur K. Jones
Des Moines, IA

* * * * * * *

I'm interested in interfacing my O-1 (SD) to a VCR (video recorder) for access and retrieval. Do you have any information on doing this?

Bob Muffoletto
Madison, WI

* * * * * * *

Dear FOG:

Enclosed is my check for entry into your prestigious Group.

Do you know of anybody who will do the mechanical adjustments that make an ESCON Universal Interface — IBM Selectric combination work? It types, but outputs garbage. Consistent garbage, to be sure, but garbage nonetheless.

I look forward to this association with FOG.

Dave Luehring
Waianae, HI

* * * * * * *

Yesterday, in the mail, I received a sample copy of ***FOGHORN***. In browsing through it I noticed on page 10, the dBASE II patch for the Osborne Executive. I tried it and it worked. It took less than ten minutes. After having searched for a solution to this problem for seven months, you may be sure my delight knew no bounds.

It seems to me that ***FOGHORN***may be able to solve other problems that I have encountered, or will encounter. Accordingly, a check for $24.00 is enclosed for first year's membership dues. The solution to the dBASE II problem is worth much more than that to me. I am retired and the Osborne Executive is strictly a hobby, although I have used it, and am using it, for many practical applications for myself and my friends.

Valentine Kiefer
Colebrook, NH

* * * * * * *

How do you get the Executive to transmit to TTY? I am trying to use the Executive with an Olympia ES101 KRO typewriter/printer with QRQ-11 Interface. It will not print except if marginal release is constantly hit. Dataface, Inc. suggested trying TTY.

Murrell J. Loy
Miami, FL

* * * * * * *

I have, as far as I know, the only O-1 within 75 miles. Due to "sloth", I have not joined your group earlier. The ***Portable Companion*** is greatly missed, and it is hoped that your news letter will take it's place.

Perhaps someone may be interested in some modifications which I have made to my Osborne. First of all, the computer is used in only two places, my home office and our lake cabin. A 12" USI is used at home and a 9" TV converted into a monitor is kept at the cabin. Therefore, to save my back, the 5" display unit was removed from the O-1 (it unplugs easily) and the opening filled with a WS command list. This change reduces heat inside the case, as well as taking off a few pounds.

The other change, which certainly is not new, was to add an air filter to the case. A small Norelco air cleaner was purchased for $10 and connected with a plastic hose to the sliding cover on top of the case. I am very enthusiastic about this modification as it has practically eliminated BDOS errors. Up here in the northwoods we, like almost everyone else, heat with wood with its ashes and smoke everytime the stove door is opened. Before the filter addition, one of the disk drives had to be replaced after only one year of intermittent use. By-the-way, the filter mounting was modified to force all air through the filter by snipping off the small pins holding the filter away from the bottom of the Norelco case.

I have the 80 column change and use 104 columns for everything except WordStar, and would hate to be without it for SuperCalc2.

Ed Buttenhoff
Grand Rapids, MI

* * * * * * *

Can you advise which memory location (using INSTALL, DDT or DU) should be, altered to provide smooth scrolling in WordStar? If not, could you advise me as to where I could find that information?

Gary Kent
North Kingstown, RI

* * * * * * *

Dear Gale,

In recent issues of ***FOGHORN*** I have noticed letters from people who are having trouble interfacing their Osborne to the Epson Printer. Of particular interest to me have been the problems using the Executive, which is the one I have. The first problem seems to be the cable. There have been various cable hook-ups published and what surprises me is that while I obtained an "Executive to Epson" cable, from Computerland, the hook-up does not agree with anything published and yet it seems to work fine! I wonder if there is a better hook-up?

The other area which interests me is using the printer — mine is the FX-80 — with WordStar. I am very pleased with the results which I am getting, and the Epson User's Manual has provided me with a lot of confidence. I have seen very little published on this way of doing business, but what I am doing is using the (ESC) function.

To do this I used the INSTALLS program (disk 2) and changed the User #3 (^PE) to 01 1B. This can also be done on the Osborne 01. I then type my text and insert a ^PE command followed by the appropriate function command. For example, if I want to start italic printing I type ^PE4 at that point, only E4 appears on the screen. A good list of these codes appears on pages 315-7 of the Epson User's Manual. Don't forget to cancel, or turn off, the command which can usually be done with just a ^PE@. At first I thought that I was limited to just one letter after the ^PE but I have found that the system will accept more than one letter commands.

This appears to be a simple way to control the printer and I am willing to help others should they want more information on this method.

Stan Symons
San Jose, CA

* * * * * * *

In the January ***FOGHORN***, you asked for reader input to resolution of the issue regarding notice to advertisers of unfavorable reactions (Hurst, et al vs Osmosis) to their products and services through letters to the Editor. I can share a personal experience which may help.

A number of years ago I lived and worked in a large mid-western city and was unable to reach a satisfactory settlement of a product warranty from a local merchant. Finally, I wrote to the vox pop column of a newspaper in which the merchant regularly bought advertising space. My letter touched off a chain of events involving discussions with the legal department of the newspaper, the Better Business Bureau, and the merchant. The upshot was that my letter was published but only after it was toned down to prevent me and the newspaper from being hauled into court by the merchant.

This experience prompts me to suggest that your editorial policy might be examined by FOG counsel to establish guidelines that protect you from legal actions for libel. These guidelines can be made known to your advertisers before they purchase space or simply added to the credentials on the inside cover. If they included mention of your right to edit contributions for whatever cause, then the letter writers would also be forewarned that you intend to protect ***FOGHORN***'s interests. Within such a framework, it seems to me unnecessary to provide any notice whatever of consumer reactions to a supplier's product or services beyond publication of the letter in your columns.

I would agree that such controversies are good for ***FOGHORN*** and, indeed, all the members of FOG provided that they do not develop into vendettas or carping to get in the last word. That, of course, requires your exercise of strict control, even if you do lose an occasional subscriber or advertiser. The "good" derives from the public airing of consumer reactions and supplier rebuttals when kept in context. Fortunes are being made off us personal computer owners and we really don't have any protection against misleading advertising claims and shoddy documentation without the forums provided by such publications as ***FOGHORN***. Since a dissatisfied customer represents a 100% sample of his experience, and one complaint (or several) represents only a drop in the bucket to the supplier, there is obviously room for argument and rebuttal. It is up to FOG and the staff of ***FOGHORN*** to help each side maintain its perspective.

Keep up the good work. ***FOGHORN*** is most helpful and I have learned something from every issue. You are obviously not to far out of balance or 6000+ members would be leaving in droves.

Truman Evans
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

* * * * * * *

This letter responds to your request in the January issue for members feelings about the obligations of the Editor to advertisers.

It appears that you have inconvenienced yourself and delayed mailing the ***FOGHORN*** in attempts to be fair to Osmosis Computer Corp. In the return you were unfairly berated by Mr. Kitching.

I feel the Editor's first obligation is to the publication and the readership. Members who ARE also advertisers should have the same opportunity to respond to adverse letters as members who ARE NOT advertisers, but they should receive no special treatment. Giving special treatment compromises the Editor by suggesting bias to the readers. The Editor has no responsibility to advise advertisers of adverse letters.

The Editor similarly has no responsibility to investigate the merits of adverse letters when the only information source is the protagonists. Advertisers should not be protected. When they or their products behave badly, the readers are entitled to know. If they are getting a bad rap, other readers will write to balance the situation. Let the chips fall where they may.

William B. Gillette
Indianapolis, IN

* * * * * * *

Dear Editor,

Help, Hints, and more

1. CHANGING PROGRAM PROMPTS WITH DU-V77

If you've patched WordStar to suit your printer, its Help Menus probably don't describe the special features you've implemented. For example, I use ^PY to toggle shadow boldface, but the menu originally called this Ribbon Color Change.

By using DU-V77 to look into the file WSMSGS.OVR, I found each "screenful" of Help menus to be one long ASCII string. There are no Carriage Returns or Line Feeds; the menu text is laid out on the screen by the use of Tabs and spaces. With DU-V77 you can change any part of these menus to anything you like — even translate the entire Help file into Spanish, given time!

For those not familiar with DU-V77, its .DOC file and Doug Hurst's continuing ***FOGHORN*** series teach how to use this utility. The basic technique is to search the file for the message to be changed (using the = function of DU-V77) and then just type in the new text (using the CA##, function).

Messages in other programs may be changed similarly. For example, my SuperCalc now responds to /Q with "Exit to CP/M?" instead of "Exit SuperCalc?". MBASIC's offensive error message "?Redo from start" has become "Please try again"; the MBASIC prompt "Ok" is now "MB>"; and by starting the MBASIC sign-on message with several line feeds, it now clears the screen of the "Big O". WordStar now signs on "Canon AP-400/92 Typewriter/Printer" instead of "Backspacing teletype-like printer". Finally, all my programs start by greeting me by name! How's that for "user-friendly"?

Some caveats: (1) The ends of the various messages are often marked by nulls <00>; the total new message must fit between these, although by including line feeds and tabs it can take more room on the screen. (2) You should not move some messages, like "P=Print a file", to another place on the screen. When printing, WordStar changes this to "P=STOP PRINTING", which appears in the old screen position. (3) Some messages occur twice in WSMSGS, one version being shorter than the other. Only the longer one is used by the Osborne. Experiment!

⇨

2. KEEP THOSE PLUG PINS CLEAN!

About once per year, a whole row of keys goes dead on my keyboard. Pulling out and pushing back the keyboard plug always cures it; air pollution has been getting at the plug's metal pins. If you try this, take care: the pins are easy to break and expensive to replace! About a week after my Com-Pac modem arrived, it (falsely) reported "carrier present" immediately on loading its software. Pulling out and pushing back the modem-to-Osborne plug fixed that too. Moral: always suspect poor connections first!

3. DO-IT-YOURSELF FOOT PEDAL AND JOYSTICK

A foot pedal CTRL key is a good idea, but need not cost $40. Osborne's keyboard contains no active parts, so an electrician can wire an external switch in parallel with any key. The old, typed owner's manual says the CTRL key connects keyboard plug pins 3 & 12. Just find the other ends of these wires inside the keyboard and connect to a miniature headphone jack mounted, say, left of ESC. Suitable foot pedals cost under $5 as cassette player accessories.

Similarly, cursor arrow keys can be wired to a joystick. Simple joysticks contain 5 switches (UP, DOWN, LEFT, RIGHT and FIRE) sharing a common return wire. These must be separated and rewired as follows: UP = pins 7 & 10, DOWN = 5 & 11, LEFT = 7 & 11, RIGHT = 5 & 10, FIRE (space bar) = 7 & 13. Only 5 wires are required, but they are connected differently than most joysticks. A joystick offers some of the benefits of a "mouse", but most of us will probably use them mainly for game playing.

4. RAINBOW TO OSBORNE DISK TRANSFERS — BOTH WAYS

Earlier I wrote that files can be moved from the Osborne to DEC's Rainbow via DEC's older VT180 disk format. DEC, however, forbids the Rainbow from writing to this format. Patching DEC's file CPM.SYS with EB in place of 74 at 2C83 liberates the Rainbow so it can write as well as read VT180 disks, and thus transfer files to the Osborne. ASCII and WS text and MBASIC-80 or -86 .BAS files, plus most 8-bit CP/M utilities like XDIR, DU-V77 etc. work unchanged on either machine — that's the beauty of CP/M!

Since the Rainbow's head is narrower (80 tracks) it may not fully erase Osborne recordings. Therefore, keep two VT180-format disks, one formatted and written to only by the Rainbow, the other by the Osborne (VT180 formatters are now available for both machines). Either machine can then read disks written by the other.

5. QUARTER-LINE SUPERSCRIPTS & SUBSCRIPTS ON EPSON

I prefer superscripts and subscripts to be only 1/4 line above or below the text line. For my Epson FX80 I patched WordStar's ROLUP as ESC J 9 and ROLDOW as ESC j 9; this looks great! The only caution is that the next Line Feed cancels these commands, so superscripting can't extend to the next line.

6. WANTS AND WISHES DEPT.

I would like to see:

(a) A review of Drive C [*Look in this issue!*]
(b) A review comparing the various Osborne-1 fans
(c) A review of Nuevo's 80-column board. Can it do 80 external and 52 internal simultaneously? [*Yes. But it is hardware selectable so you have to decide when installing. You can have 52 or 80 column — internally or externally. — Gale Rhoades*]
(d) A new concept in matrix printers. It must buffer whole pages, then print alternate pages upside down, so I can staple together my fan-fold [along the edge] printout without first separating the sheets!

7. SOCIAL LIFE OF OSBORNE USERS!

I've been analyzing why our Portable Computer Club meetings are so enjoyable. I've concluded that they are the closest thing today to traditional rural society. We share, help, teach and learn from each other and exchange programs that, like hand-made quilts, took weeks to polish and perfect. Yet, what we give away we still have! McLuhan and Toffler may be right about the "global village" already being here!

Alan T. Chattaway
Vancouver, BC Canada

* * * * * * *

Varied thoughts

If drive A: on the OCC-1 won't boot one can boot from 'B:'. This is done by entering SHIFT " (simultaneously pressing the shift and double quote keys) after powering up or resetting. Insert the system disk into the right hand slot you think is B: and press these two keys. The OCC-1 will boot up and inform you that you are now on drive A:. The left drive is now called drive B:. On power down or resetting the drive assignment reverts to the original configuration. This is great if drive A: is down or maybe if you're just left-handed but watch out which drive you're writing to or you may get them reversed. If you do this regularly, label your drives accordingly.

Recent magazine reviews emphasize the blank editing screen available on new word processors. It has been pointed out that setting the WordStar help level to 0 through CTRL-JH then 0 will eliminate the help menus which clutter up the screen in WordStar. Another method which does essentially the same thing while also saving you 26 Kbytes of disk space is to erase the file WSMSGS.OVR file from your copy (NOT ORIGINAL) of WordStar. Now when you edit a document WordStar informs you that the WordStar Message Overlay cannot be found and you can proceed to edit a document without the clutter of messages.

CTS Corporation finally sent Mycroft Laboratories modem software (Myterm) instead of the Amcall package with its $99. modem deal. I like Myterm better than Amcall personally. The $50. upgrade to Mite works about the same but has some additional features and can be configured (with an investment of your time or money) for many systems. I have obtained error-free transfer of text files to a DEC VAX mainframe computer by simply EDITing the VAX new filename (SOS line editor) and uploading from the OCC-1. Type CTRL-Z at the end of the transfer and then E to exit. The transfer goes the other way by downloading on the OCC-1 (in Myterm or Mite) and TYPEing the VAX old filename. The same procedure worked fine from the TRS-80 model 100 with the VAX. Now, has anyone written a "Brilliant Terminal" program where the OCC-1 will emulate a DEC VT-100 terminal in communication mode? Then the DEC EDT screen editor could be used remotely.

I suggest using SETUP to define the WordStar function keys as follows. The keys are laid out as:

```
7 8 9
4 5 6
1 2 3
0 . Enter
```

I use: 7-left one word, 8-move 16 lines up (scroll 16 L down), 9-right one word, 4-left to edge of line, 5-move block ("PASTE"), 6-right to edge of line, 1-start block, 2-move 16 lines down (scroll 16 L up), 3-end block, 0-delete block. I use these functions regularly and find them easy to remember in this configuration. If you draw the movements as arrows, as I have done on the front of my monitor, you see that keys on the left/right tend to move left/right and the central top/bottom keys move you up/down in the text.

On a similar note, the OCC-1 keyboard appears to contain no electronics, just an array of cheap switches. It would appear that a competent high school student could figure out in a few hours how to lay out a keyboard (perhaps even one that attaches in parallel with the usual keyboard) that would automatically execute all the CONTROL-letters so that all the WordStar functions would be labelled and could be implemented by pressing one key and not the two keys that the software approaches require you to press.

On a separate file I am enclosing a copy of an article on one's rights in regard to used computer software which makes fascinating reading and might be usefully included in the library.

Peter Baum
Sunnymead, CA

* * * * * * *

TIPS FOR TYROS

Note-Taking and Concatenating Files

by Bob Stepno

If you think of some other project while you're working in WordStar, it's easy to write yourself a note without interrupting whatever you're doing. You write the note into another file using WordStar's CTRL-K commands:

CTRL-KB to start the note.
CTRL-KK to end it.
CTRL-KW to write it onto the disk.
(With a filename like NOTES1, NOTES2, etc.)
CTRL-KY to delete it from the screen.

This technique is especially good for writing notes about writing with WordStar — the kind of things you could share with the rest of us through this newsletter (hint, hint).

After you write yourself a bunch of notes this way, you may want to glue them together into one new file headed. The Osborne and its software give us at least three ways to do this. Since I discovered them while writing this article, you get explanations of all three without any real conclusion about which is best in which applications.

First method, using WordStar:

1) Enter the file that you want as the top of the new, combined file, as if to edit it.

2) Use CTRL-KF to display a directory of the disk while you are editing the file. If you want the directory of the other disk, type CTRL-KL to change the logged disk. The heading "partial DIRECTORY of disk n:" will change accordingly.

3) Position the cursor at the end of the file with CTRL-QC, or wherever you want to insert the material from the next file.

4) Type CTRL-KR. WordStar will prompt with "NAME OF FILE TO READ?" Answer with the name of the file you want added to the present one (NOTES1, for instance), and type a return. The file is copied BELOW your cursor, possibly extending off the bottom of the screen.

5) Repeat step 4 until you have Read-in all of the files you wanted joined.

6) When you are finished, another CTRL-KF turns off the directory. A CTRL-KS will save a copy of the new, complete file, and CTRL-KJ will delete the now-redundant files from the disk.

Second Method, using MailMerge:

Create a mergeprint command file full of ".fi FILENAME" commands. See pages 114-115 of the Osborne User's Reference Guide. Use the "M" command from the no-file menu as if you were Merge-printing the files, but answer "yes" to the "write to a file?" option that the screen gives you. There WAS one problem the first time I tried this routine: Of the three one-line files I tried to merge, the second file wasn't printed. Instead, the ".FI" command line for that file was printed into my new file. The next time, I put blank lines between the .fi command lines. It seems to work, but I haven't tried any serious merging yet.

Third Method, (Last, Not Least) Using PIP:

This discovery is thanks to a store-bought book about software, *Nailing Jelly to a Tree*, and the [Wesleyan University] Science Library's copy of Rodney Zaks' *The CP/M Handbook.* The latter even has an index, in which I simply looked up "concatenation" and found most of the following. I must have copied a few hundred files with PIP, but I never noticed this PIP ability (pipability?) in the Osborne manual. It's there, but minus the index and minus the words "join" and "concatenate," which might have caught my attention.

Say you have three files that you want joined: FIRST.TXT, SECOND.TXT, and THIRD.TXT. You want one large file, to be named "WHOLE.TXT." All you have to do is type this:

```
PIP WHOLE.TXT=FIRST.TXT,SECOND.TXT,THIRD.TXT
```

That's IT! (At least for text files. For HEX files and other sorcery, see Zaks.)

Just for meanness, here's how the Osborne guide describes this aspect of "PIP." In the book's reference section, the "PIP" subsection, the "FORMAT:" sub-subsection, is the following:

> FORMAT: PIP destination=source[parm] (CR) Normal form loads and copies 'sources' to 'destination'. There may be only one destination device or file but there may be any number of sources, each separated by commas.

Bob Stepno is a member of the Wesleyan Osborne Group, W.O.G. This article first appeared in Vol. 2, No. 1 (Jan '84) of the W.O.G. newsletter.

* * * * * * *

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HELP

(or That's Not a BUG it's a Feature)

By Bradley S. Albom

Welcome again to the ***FOGHORN*** Help column. This is the place to send your questions about your Osborne and any software you're using with it. To get your question(s) answered, send a letter of a page or less to:

Bradley S. Albom
c/o COMSOL
The Computer Solutions Company
P.O. Box 206
Pt. Richmond, Calif 94807

If you prefer the phone, you can also leave me a message at (415)-234-8346. I'd prefer it if you limited phone calls to quick answers for the problems brought up in the column. My time has become such that I simply cannot return all the calls I am getting. If someone else would like to volunteer to handle phone in problems, please contact me and I'll be sure to get your name and number out to our other users.

On your letters, remember, the lead time for this column is three months. If you can wait that long for an answer, fine. If you can't, include a SASE or post card with your mailed in questions.

Direct dBase II questions to:

Mr. Blake Mason
723 Old Country Road, Apt. N
Belmont, Calif 94002

Hardware Wars

This month has offered me at least one new experience. In the past, my Osborne had been satisfied with allowing me to write about other people's hardware problems. Apparently feeling left out, it now wanted to get into the act. Specifically, my right hand disk drive decided to go flaky. Put a disk in and try to log it on ... presto, one totally munged disk. The logon left the disk useless until it was reformatted. There was no warning preceding this failure, it just happened. Fortunately it chose to happen to my partner and all it munged was a freshly backed up disk. Once again, I can't emphasize the importance of backups as a habit, not just something to do from time to time.

Now begins my Odyssey in search of a replacement disk drive. I'll spare you all the details, but let's just say I was unsuccessful in finding a plug-in compatible drive at my local computer swap meet. However, Gale Rhoades came to the rescue with two companies that do provide replacement parts. They are:

Mission Peak Systems
3514 Arden Road
Hayward, Calif 94545

Cost Effective Components
2335 Summit Drive
Burlingame, Calif 94010

I ended up at Mission Peak Systems which was started by ex-Osborne people. They all seemed knowledgeable and very helpful. Their exchange disk drive was $65.50 (that's right, less than some dealers charge to do an alignment). I got my new drive home, plugged it in and it worked like a champ. For those with power supply problems, the exchange price is $25.00. In fact for the cost of a 2 year Xerox service contract, you can exchange 3/4 of your Osborne for guaranteed working parts. Or to put it another way, with not much more than a screwdriver you can maintain your own Osborne! Oh yeah, they have Executive parts also.

I'm afraid I didn't get any information on the other store and unfortunately I'm trying desperately to get this column out tonight. I understand Willie Mays of the Vegas Osborne Group uncovered this place as a source of MPI drives. I recommend writing to either or both. With just a little elbow grease, you too can keep your Osborne up and running.

One thought comes to mind immediately about my experience in tearing apart my Osborne. It was quite easy and straight forward, even without instructions. One of these companies should print up a sheet of instructions about how to take apart and put your Osborne back together again. I'm sure once people see how easy it is, these companies will find a whole lot more users (customers) servicing their own machines.

Software Solutions

In the on-going problem of trapping ^C's in MBASIC, Stan Slonkosky found that I had transposed 2 of the digits in one of the POKE's. Here is the complete sequence, hopefully with the correct locations:

```
POKE &H425C,CH ---> NOT &H452C as previously published
POKE &H48B8,CH
POKE &H5559,CH
```

where CH is the ascii code of the character you want to have act as ^C, or > 128 if you don't want any ^C character.

On the subject of IBM compatible formats, I got a call from Mike McCarthy of Dysan who has been transferring files between his IBM and his Osborne 1 for some time now. Osborne DD reads IBM disks written with CP/M 86 ONLY. In addition, you cannot read double sided IBM disks on the Osborne (disks with greater than 185K storage capacity). This leaves MS-DOS disks inaccessible to your Osborne. Fortunately, someone has already filled this hole. FOG is selling a program called Uniform for $70 which will allow you to format and read MS-DOS disks on your Osborne. Note that this conversion will only work for data files. MS-DOS programs cannot be run under the Osborne's CP/M. Mike says he has this program and is quite pleased with it.

A couple months ago, I published a question about how to translate a SuperCalc file generated on a 52 column machine to an 80 or more column version. I've gotten as many different approaches as I have calls and letters.

Jerry Silverstien says to use the /Install option for 80 columns and then read the 52 column file into a new screen, one line at a time.

David Ring of Redwood City, CA, suggests changing the byte at position 02F0 in the spreadsheet file from a value of 52 to either 80 or 104. David doesn't know if you can do this from SuperCalc but has been able to do it with DDT. David did not have any luck with the documented solution of loading the old spreadsheets with the /P(art) option.

David's instructions on using DDT for the conversion are as follows. Get into DDT and enter your spreadsheet file name, like SAMPLE.CAL. Enter the command -S02F0 which will cause the width byte to be displayed in hex (34 Hex is 52 Dec). Now enter 68 (Hex) to go to 104 (decimal) and hit a <CR>. Leave the -S mode by typing a "." (period) and <CR>. Leave DDT by typing ^C and save the patched spreadsheet by entering SAVE # SAMPLE.CAL where # is the number of memory pages to save.

A caller (Paul) suggests using the /W(indow) option in SuperCalc with the sub-option of C(lear) to convert from 52 to 80 or 104 columns.

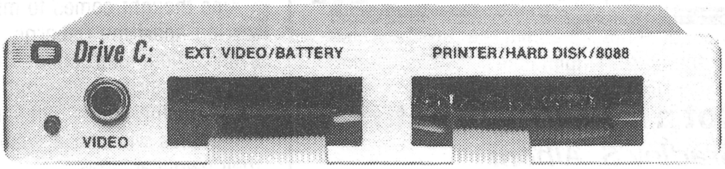
Mark Larson seems to have had some luck with the documented /P(art) option. He loads the file using the P(art) option instead of A(ll) and then answers the range question by giving the entire range of the old file. Mark's next question is how to do the same thing for Multiplan.

Ben Cohen has also had luck with the /P(art) command but he also recommends you reformat the whole file after you have it loaded.

Timothy Perrin of Vancouver, Canada, uses the INSTALLS.COM program on the SuperCalc disk to do his conversions. Its use is docu-

cont. on page 18

Drive C: NEW PRODUCTS!



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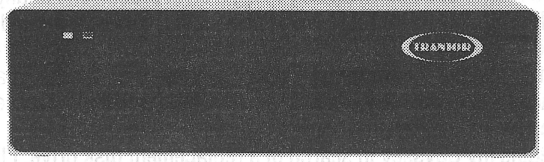

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Drive C:

mented at the end of Osborne's SuperCalc reference section. By the way, thanks to Timothy for a number of "duplicate" solutions mentioned elsewhere in this and my last column. Timothy is also very satisfied with the Canadian version of Xerox's service centers which charge $315 (American) for a two year contract.

Bob Stepno of Middletown, CT, has a simple solution to Louie Crew's Double spacing, or lack of double spacing between paragraphs in WordStar. Start by skipping an extra line between paragraphs. Then use the Search and Replace function to find all occurrences of a skipped line (i.e. two carriage returns in a row, also recognized as CTRL-N's) and replace them with three skipped lines.

Steven and Debra Dyk of Wollaston Lake, Canada, have a cool solution to their Osborne's intermittent BDOS problems. They associate the errors with the Osborne's heating up, so when the errors start, they take the machine outside into the -20F temperatures. After fifteen minutes of this, the Osborne is ready to go again. They think the ultimate problem has something to do with a loose connection between their boards, but have not been able to isolate it.

They also write that the address for WordStar's default HELP setting is at 360. To turn off all help messages, change 360 to 0 and 361 to FF.

Their final contribution concerns the problem of stopping WordStar from formfeeding the last page of a file. You can put a CTRL PC anywhere in your WordStar file which will pause the printer and return you to your main menu. In the main menu, hitting PP twice (quickly) will start and stop printing again, this time giving you the option of abandoning the print. Putting the ^PC at the end of your file is a sloppy but effective way of preventing that last formfeed.

I just got a late post card from Steven Dyk concerning another problem/solution:

"A data file in FOG/MIS.011 called MOVCPM.FIX describes a modification to MOVCPM that will eliminate the SYNCHRONIZATION ERROR problem. In other words, you can use one MOVCPM for both your SD and DD systems. However, the address to be changed for the Osborne is at 1F2; the assembly language listing for it is JNZ 012A. If you 00 1F2 — 1F4, it will eliminate the SYNCHRONIZATION ERROR."

Mine is Faster Than Yours

I got a letter from David Fox regarding Curt Gilchrist's C Tools that I've been publishing in previous columns. He takes issue with some of the improved speed claims of the Z80 based routines. In his own words:

"Unfortunately, the listings for strcopy() and strcat() illustrate the common fallacy that any code which uses the powerful Z80 instructions is better than 'old fashioned' 8080 code. In fact even the simple C version of strcopy:

```
strcopy(s,t) char *s, *t;
¦    while( *s++ = *t++ ) ;    ¦
```

runs faster than the version using zmvr(). There are two reasons for this. The overhead associated with passing arguments to functions is significant, and the Z80 version must make two passes through the string. One to find its length and a second to do the move."

Next month I'll publish David's versions of fgets() and fputs() for Software Toolworks C/80.

New Problems

Bob Stepno of Middletown, CT, has some interesting new problems. WordStar keeps giving him the message "File GNU.COM no found" whenever he tries to do an "R" (Run) command from the NOFILE menu. It doesn't dump him out of WordStar, but it also doesn't allow him to run any outside programs. Bob thinks this problem only happens on WordStar that has Math* installed. In addition, the problem seems somewhat intermittent and he says a new copy of WordStar seems to have solved it. Does anyone have an idea of what WordStar was trying to do? [*Check the last couple of issues. It seems to me that we published someones notes about this "feature", but I'm sorry to say, I can't find it right now — another problem of working two months ahead — I don't have the finished* ***FOGHORN*** *s available for reference. David*]

Bob is also starting to develop finicky disks. None of the fatal BDOS messages, but when he tries to exit from dBase II or WordStar, the drive will sometimes hang and produce a rapping noise. He thinks the drive can't find the system tracks and is repeatedly running to the end of its trolley. LIFTING the front of the machine sometimes helps. Cleaning the heads doesn't. One service person, not experienced with Osborne's, recommended pulling the drive and spraying the rails the head travels on with VCR head cleaner. This is a year old DD machine. Any ideas out there?

Finally, Bob wants to know if there are any FOG utilities that can convert files from other editors into WordStar format. That is, something that will strip out control characters and carriage returns that don't have associated line feeds. I do know that PIP with the [Z] option will get rid of WordStar's weird control codes but I don't think it will eliminate entire characters. I vaguely remember seeing something called STRIP.COM in the FOG library, but I don't remember exactly what it does.

I have gotten a number of calls and letters about the Osborne distributed AMCALL modem and terminal program. Chuck Smith of Scottsdale, AZ, has tried unsuccessfully to call the FOG R/CPM system with it. He has reset the default protocol to MODEM, 300 Baud, Full duplex, screen switch OFF, and 7 data bits with even parity. When he gets through to the R/CPM, AMCALL tells him all is OK and to type a <CR>, only when he does, AMCALL hangs up. Not very sociable, is it? Another problem has to do with THE SOURCE, which Chuck can get through to. Unfortunately, he has yet to be able to open a file and save his session for review later. Everything seems OK until he tries to ESC W to write the file to disk. Nothing happens. The file name is out on the disk when he exits, but it is empty.

C. Grafton Cole of Fairfax, VA is trying another approach. Instead of using AMCALL's software, he is trying some of the public domain versions like OTERM. Unfortunately, no one wants to tell him what commands the modem uses to do its functions (like dialing, etc). Does anyone out there have the appropriate documentation.

Steven Dyk wants to know if the FOG library has a version of ZCPR that will run on a version 1.44 double density machine. The 1.4 version of ZCPR bombs on his machine.

New Products

In response to a previous question about proportional spacing with WordStar, one of my colleagues told me about a book dedicated to just that subject, called oddly enough "Proportional Spacing on WordStar." Since the WordStar people have not seen fit to properly support their software, they've left a good size hole that someone else has chosen to fill. This book claims to provide "complete details for printing in proportional spacing, directly from WordStar" on Daisywheel printers. My colleague is quite pleased with the book. Hopefully it can answer some of the questions that I can't. For more information, write to:

Writing Consultants, Suite 144
11 Creek Bend Drive
Fairport, NY 14450
1-800-227-3800 ext. 7018

In Closing

One of this month's letters asked me to provide a few more answers, rather than just questions. Unfortunately, during the last nine months demands for my time have been growing like a hydra's heads. These demands have changed me from a programmer, eager and willing to chase down new bugs into your basic vanilla flavored user who would just as soon never see a bug again. My approach has changed from talking about the bugs I've found to editing your letters into a coherent form to talk about the bugs you've found. I really think this format serves us all best. It does however, leave me dependent on you, the reader, to talk about what interests you. Whether you're a novice or an old time hacker your questions will get in and hopefully answered.

[*In case you missed them, there are two reviews of* ***Proportional Spacing on WordStar*** *in the last (March) issue. David*]

* * * * * * *

ARTICLES

Terminal and Printer Commands in MBasic

by Timothy Perrin

Among the most tedious parts of programming in Basic are the terminal commands. It gets very tiring to consistently type PRINT CHR$(26) to clear the screen. It involves several shifts and, more likely than not, you're going to make a mistake at least once in a program.

But there is a way around this that allows you to issue terminal commands in simple, easy to understand mnemonics that are hardware independent and will allow your program to run on **ANY** CP/M computer with only minor changes!

All it takes is a little modular programming and a subroutine that defines the terminal commands once and for all. I keep this in a file on my MBasic/WordStar programming disk and call it OSBORNE.BAS

```
100-GOSUB 65000 : 'GET OSBORNE SCREEN COMMANDS
65000-'****************************************
65005-'OSBORNE 1 TERMINAL COMMANDS
65010-'****************************************
65015-CL$=CHR$(26):'CLEARS SCREEN
65020-HOME$=CHR$(30):'HOMES CURSOR
65025-NOBRITE$=CHR$(27)+``)'': BRITE$=CHR$(27)+``('': 'HALF INTEN-
        SITY ON/OFF
65030-UNDLINE$=CHR$(27)+``l'': NOLINE$=CHR$(27)+``m'': 'UNDERLINE
        ON/OFF
65035-GRAF$=CHR$(27)+``g'':NOGRAF$=CHR$(27)+``G'':'GRAPHICS ON/OFF
65040-DEF FNC$(Y,X)=CHR$(27)+``=''+CHR$(Y+32)+CHR$(X+32):'DIRECT
        CURSOR ADDRESS
65050-RETURN
```

Now, whenever you want to clear the screen, just write PRINT CL$. To home the cursor write PRINT HOME$. To put the word "Hello" at column 5, line 5 write PRINT FNC$(5,5); "Hello".

I have a second file called EPSON.FIL with my printer commands:

```
110-GOSUB 65100: ' GET EPSON PRINT CONTROL CODES
65100-'*******************************************************
65105-' EPSON MX-80 CONTROL CODES
65110-'*******************************************************
65115-ENHANCE$=CHR$(27)+``E'':NOENHANCE$=CHR$(27)+``F'': 'TURNS
        ON/OFF ENHANCED PRINT
65120-LARGE$=CHR$(14):NOLARGE$=CHR$(20): 'TURNS ON/OFF LARGE PRINT
65125-ITALIC$=CHR$(4):NOITALIC$=CHR$(5): 'TURNS ON/OFF ITALICS
65130-FORMFEED$=CHR$(12): 'FORM FEED
65135-BELLOFF$=CHR$(27)+``8'': BELLON$=CHR$(27)+``9'': 'TURNS OUT OF
        PAPER WARNING ON/OFF
65140-SMALL$=CHR$(15):NOSMALL$=CHR$(18):'TURNS SMALL PRINT ON/OFF
65145-RETURN
```

Note that I put these routines about as high up in memory as the MBasic numbering scheme will allow. That's because they're only accessed once, during your program's initialization routine. Give the frequently accessed routines low numbers and let these routines go into high memory.

If you use WordStar to write your programs, just use the ^KR command to read these files into your program and don't worry about moving the high number blocks to the bottom of the file. When MBasic loads the file, it will automatically put the numbered lines where they belong.

The real payoff comes when you want to adapt your program for another terminal. Change the definitions in the initialization subroutine once and you're done!

An even better method is to store all the terminal and printer codes in a sequential disk file which your program initialization routine reads. That's the technique I have to use in a program I have written called "THE WRITER'S ACCOUNTANT" to keep the accounts for freelance writers. Because writers use a wide variety of computers and printers I had to have an easy way to change terminal and printer commands without rewriting the program or trying to poke new values into memory locations.

The data file for this routine is created with an installation program but can be easily put together with a text processor. For instance, the file used by this routine is just a series of numbers:

```
26,30,27,61,32,32,15,0,18,0,12
```

26 clears the screen
30 homes the cursor
ESC [27] and
61 [=] working together initiate direct cursor addressing
The 32's are the column and row offsets.
15 sets the small print on my printer
the 0 is a nul since the control code is only one digit long
18 turns the small print off
0 is again a nul for a single code control string.
12 is the formfeed command for my printer.

I use this routine to read the data into the program and assign the values to the appropriate variables.

```
100 -GOSUB 65000: 'GETS TERMINAL/PRINTER COMMANDS
65000 '*******************************************************
65001-' GET TERMINAL/PRINTER COMMANDS
65002 '*******************************************************
65010-OPEN ``I'',#1,``DATA.FIL''
65020-INPUT #1, CL%, HOME%, CURS1%, CURS2%, OFFSET1%, OFFSET2%,
        FORMFEED%, SMALL1%, SMALL2%, NOSMALL1%, NOSMALL2%
65030-' **** TERMINAL CODES ****
65040-CL$=CHR$(CL%):' CLEAR SCREEN & HOME CURSOR
65050-HOME$=CHR$(HOME%):' HOMES CURSOR BUT DOES NOT CLEAR SCREEN
65060-DEF FNC$(X,Y)=CHR$(CURS1%)+ CHR$(CURS2%)+
        CHR$(Y+OFFSET1%)+CHR$(X+OFFSET2%): ' DIRECT CURSOR ADDRESSING
65070-'*** PRINTER CODES ***
65080-SMALL1$=CHR$(SMALL1%):SMALL2$=CHR$(SMALL2%): 'TURNS ON SMALL
        PRINT
65090-NOSMALL1$=CHR$(NOSMALL1%):NOSMALL2$=CHR$(NOSMALL2%): 'TURNS
        OFF SMALL PRINT
65100-FORMFEED$=CHR$(FORMFEED%):'FORMFEED
65110-CLOSE #1:RETURN
```

Now, to reprogram the terminal commands you just have to change the DATA.FIL. I use an installation program that prompts the user for the correct codes then writes the DATA.FIL. In addition, I include files named OSBORNE.FIL, KAYPRO.FIL, etc. and all a user with that kind of hardware has to do is rename the file. The installation program allows the user to bypass the terminal or printer code section of the installation routine if the codes for their terminal or printer are the same as those for one of the specified terminals or printers.

* * * * * * *

C From the Top Down — Part 3

by Dave Ring

This is the third article of a four part series on programming in the C language. The first installment presented the header section of the utility program SUPERSET, which led into a discussion of modules, macros and the C preprocessor. The second article continued with the main() section of SUPERSET, and described how the central program handled command line arguments and organized the action of smaller program modules. The present article will examine how the middle level functions of SUPERSET divide the programming task into manageable, logically isolated portions.

In the last part of this series, the main() section of SUPERSET looked a good deal like an outline. It asked for command line arguments, dealt with them if there were any, and then presented a menu of program options. There wasn't much detail in main(), and in fact main() could easily have been written without knowing anything at all about how the Osborne 1 stores its special function keys and boot command. Better yet, if we had another computer with special function keys implemented in an entirely different way, main() could be moved to that computer unchanged, provided that we rewrote the functions showkeys(), newkey(), filekeys(), setboot(), syswrit() and overlay(). All the unique features of the Osborne are hidden in these functions, allowing main() to be portable, and allowing us to write main() based on what we want to do, rather than how we want to do it.

(Part of the reason the C language itself is so portable is that it relegates many features to functions, which are standard, but not part of the language core. Since the core is small, it is not too difficult to write a new compiler for a different computer. The standard functions are then rewritten for the new computer system, hiding the details of system operation from the C user.)

Now it is time to look into some of the details of SUPERSET. I found the necessary information about how the Osborne 1 controls special function keys and the boot command in the OSHINTS file on FOG library disk MIS.0C7 (written by Michael Rubinstein--thanks, Michael). The same information may be in the Osborne technical manual, but I have never felt like paying OCC an extra $50 for BIOS source code that I feel should have been included with the computer.

The function key information is stored in two blocks of memory. A copy of these blocks resides permanently on the system tracks of each SYSGENed diskette, and is copied into the BIOS area of RAM whenever the Osborne is booted up. The larger block of memory contain the actual key definitions. Since these can be of variable length, the smaller block of memory consists of a series of pointers to the beginning of each key definition, plus a final pointer to the first memory address after the end of the key definition block. Information on the boot command happens to be placed in the area between the two function key storage blocks. This consists of one byte controlling when the command will be issued (on cold boot, warm boot, both or neither), another byte containing the length of the boot command, and a short block containing the actual command.

In writing SUPERSET, I decided there were six things I wanted the program to do. These were to display the key definitions (showkeys()), to replace a definition (newkey()), to overlay key definitions from a file into active memory (overlay()), to store key definitions to a file (filekeys()), to alter the stored boot command (setboot()), and to write a modified set of key definitions onto the system tracks of a specified diskette (syswrit()).

Showkeys() has the primary task of displaying the existing key definitions on the screen, and the secondary task of displaying a menu at the bottom. The first task requires knowledge of where each key definition is stored. At the beginning of the function, the declaration "char *key;" indicates that "key" is a pointer-to-character, in this case the string of characters that makes up a function key definition. But what does "char **offset;" mean? "offset" is a pointer-to-a-pointer-to-character. (Yup, just what you were afraid of. The syntax of declarations in C is not one of its best loved features, and it can get considerably worse than this.)

Why do we need a pointer to a pointer? Remember that the actual block of function key definitions is indexed by another block containing the starting address of each definition. This block is an array of pointers-to-character. The first pointer points to the definition of key ^0, the second to the definition of ^1, etc. To print out the 14 key definitions in order (^0 to ^9, up, right, down, left arrow) we will set "offset" to the beginning address of the pointer array (KEYTABL) and increment it until it reaches the end (ENDTABL). Since "offset" is the index for a table of pointers, it is a pointer-to-a-pointer-to-character.

The key display is controlled by an outer and an inner loop. The control statements of the outer loop are the initialization "offset = KEYTABL, i = 0;", the test "offset < KEYTABL;", and the increment "offset++, i++". This example displays the versatility of the for() construction in C. Not only are the initialization, test and increment brought together at the top of the loop where they are easy to see, but the comma operator allows each part of the loop control to contain multiple statements. In this case, we simultaneously initialize the pointer "offset" and the key number "i", and we simultaneously increment both each time through the loop. (The ++ following a variable name means "add 1 to the variable AFTER using its current value"; similarly, ++ before a variable increments it before using its value.)

Within the outer loop, we examine the value of the key number "i" and use the formatted output function printf() to print 0-9, U, R, D or L. Then comes the inner loop, to print out the key definition. "key = *offset;" sets the pointer "key" to the CONTENTS of the pointer-to-pointer "offset". (Whew!) "offset" was pointing to one of the entries in the pointer table, so "key" is now equal to one of those entries, and is pointing to the beginning of a key definition. Inside the inner loop, "showchar(*key);" says to use the function showchar() to display the CONTENTS of "key", which will be one character of the definition. The loop then increments "key" and tests that "key < *(offset + 1);". I.e., our pointer "key" is still below the starting address of the next definition. When the definition is all printed, we leave the inner loop, print a carriage return (printf("\n");) and go back to the top of the outer loop.

The function printf() used in the loops above and in printing the menu at the end of showkeys() is a standard C function that should be available in all implementations. It performs services similar to PRINT and PRINT USING in BASIC, or Write and WriteLn in Pascal. Showchar() is also a formatted output function, but one specially written for SUPERSET to enable display of nonprinting characters that occur in key definitions. (They are printed as a "^" symbol followed by the printing character 64 places higher in the ASCII table, and highlighted in dim video.)

The next function in SUPERSET is newkey(), which has the task of getting a new key definition and inserting it into the definition table. The problems of pointer arithmetic are similar to those encountered by showkeys() and need not be examined in detail. Basically, newkey() checks the console to see which key the user wants to change. The length of the old definition is calculated using the pointer table, and added to any free space at the top of the definition block. Newkey() then prompts with the amount of available space and uses getbytes() to input a new key definition (terminated, as in SETUP, by <ESC><ESC>). All definitions above the new definition are shifted up or down to leave exactly enough space for the new definition, the new definition is inserted into the table, and finally the pointer table is adjusted to correctly indicate the new address of each definition.

Filekeys() is only a sort of outer wrapping for overlay(). Together, these functions work to record function key definitions as a file or to read such a file into active memory. Overlay() has four arguments: a filename (source or destination), a RAM address (destination or source), the length in bytes to be moved, and a mode indicating whether we are reading from or writing to a file. Within overlay() we see how C/80 handles file I/O. Each file is assigned a channel number which is an integer ("int chan;"), and this channel number gets a value from the standard C function fopen(), which also opens the file. (This deviates a bit from standard C, where a file would be declared as "FILE fd;". In the latter case, "fd" is a file descriptor that points to a block of data on the file, rather than a simple integer as used by C/80.) After the file is opened with fopen(), two other standard C functions getc() and putc() are used to read or write characters in the file corresponding to "chan". Finally, fclose(chan) closes the file and releases the channel number for possible re-use.

Setboot() contains little new. Once again, it uses pointers to position a new boot command at the proper BIOS location, and also sets the two preceding bytes to control when the command is issued and

➪

to indicate the length of the command.

Finally, we come to syswrit(), which is responsible for saving a set of key definitions and boot command to the system tracks of a diskette. This one gets a little hairy, because we can't write anything onto those tracks as a CP/M file--CP/M already has the tracks reserved as a home for itself and the OCC supplied BIOS. Overlay() therefore is of no use. Instead, we go directly to the standard BDOS (Basic Disk Operating System) and BIOS (Basic Input Output System) services specified by CP/M and we write the definition block to the appropriate absolute disk sectors instead of to a file. This is not too hard to do in C, since the necessary BDOS and BIOS functions can be made into C functions just like any others, but now we are really getting to low level functions, and that's the topic for the next and final article.

The fourth installment of this series will analyze the lowest level functions in SUPERSET, and will show how modules of assembly code can easily be included in programs written with many implementations of the C language.

Functions Corresponding to Program Modules of SUPERSET

```
/*Showkeys displays the Osborne special function keys as well as the
four arrow keys. */
showkeys()
¦
     char *key, **offset;

     int i;

     CLEAR;
     printf(``SUPERSET v 1.0 (c) 10/1/83 by David B. Ring\n\n'');
     for (offset = KEYTABL, i = 0; offset < ENDTABL; offset++, i++) ¦
          if (i < 10)      printf(``%2d: ``, i);
          else if (i == 10)      printf('' U: ``);
          else if (i == 11)      printf('' R: ``);
          else if (i == 12)      printf('' D: ``);
          else if (i == 13)      printf('' L: ``);
          for (key = *offset; key < *(offset + 1); key++) ¦
               showchar(*key);
          ¦
          printf(``\n'');
     ¦
     PROMPT;
     printf(``Type 0-9, U, R, D, L to change key definition,\n'');
     printf(``B to change boot, F to save key defs as file,\n'');
     printf(``S to save changes to system tracks, X to exit.'');
¦
/*   Newkey() allows entry of a new function or arrow key definition,
     and also inserts the new definition into the function key table
     in BIOS, moving old definitions and adjusting pointers as
     needed.      */

newkey(c)
     int c;
¦
     char **pkey, **pnext, **endtabl, s;
     int oldlen, newlen, free, diff;
     unsigned last;

     pkey = KEYTABL;
     switch (c) ¦
          case `0':
          case `1':
          case `2':
          case `3':
          case `4':
          case `5':
          case `6':
          case `7':
          case `8':
          case `9':
               pkey += (c - `0');
               break;
          case `U':
               pkey += 10;
               break;
          case `R':
               pkey += 11;
               break;
          case `D':
               pkey += 12;
               break;
          case `L':
               pkey += 13;
               break;
     ¦

          pnext = pkey + 1;
          oldlen = *pnext - *pkey;
          endtabl = ENDTABL;
          last = *endtabl;
     free = LIMIT - last + oldlen;

     PROMPT;
     printf(``%d character spaces available for this key\n'', free);
     printf(``%c: ``, c);
     newlen = getbytes(s, free);

     diff = newlen - oldlen;
     cmove(*pnext, *pnext + diff, (int) (last - (unsigned) *pnext));
     cmove(s, *pkey, newlen);
     while ((unsigned) pnext <= ENDTABL) *pnext++ += diff;
¦

/*   Filekeys() prompts for a filename and then writes the chunk of
     BIOS containing function key pointers and definitions to that
     file. Except for a length maximum of 14 characters, filekeys()
     does not check validity of filenames.      */

filekeys()
¦
     char filename[FILENAME];

     PROMPT;
     printf(``Disk:filename.typ for saving keys: ``);
     getstr(filename, FILENAME);
     overlay(filename, KEYTABL, LIMIT - KEYTABL, ``wb'');
¦

/*   Setboot() provides display and editing of the command issued on
     cold or warm boot. By setting a toggle in memory, the command can
     be issued only on cold boot, only on warm boot, on both, or on
     neither.      */

setboot()
¦
     char s[7], *pswitch, *plen, *pcom, c;
     int i;

     pswitch = BOOTSWITCH;
     plen = BOOTLENGTH;
     pcom = BOOTCOMMAND;

     PROMPT;
     printf(``Current boot sequence is: ``);
     for (i = 0; i < *plen - 1; i++) putchar(pcom[i]);
     printf(``\nCommand to be issued on boot (<= 7 char): ``);
     *plen = getstr(s, 7) + 1;
```

cont. on page 22

```
    cmove(s, pcom, *plen);
    printf(''Issue on 1=cold boot, 2=warm, 3=both, 0=neither: '');
    c = inkey();
    *pswitch = c - '0';
}

/*   Syswrit() writes the section of BIOS containing key definitions
     and boot command to the system tracks of the specified
     disk.    */

syswrit()
{
    char s[2], *curdrive;
    int olddrive, drive, dma, track, sector;

    curdrive = CURDRIVE;
    olddrive = *curdrive;

    PROMPT;
    printf(''Drive on which to save current settings: '');
    getstr(s, 2);
    switch (toupper(s[0])) {
        case 'A':
            drive = 0;
            break;
        case 'B':
            drive = 1;
            break;
        default:
            PROMPT;
            printf(''Invalid drive; press any key to go on.'');
            inkey();
            return;
    }
    bdos(SELDISK, drive);
    dma = BIOS;
    for (track = FSTTRK; track <= LSTTRK; track++) {
        for (sector = FSTSEC; sector <= LSTSEC; sector++) {
            bios(SETTRK, track, 0);
            bios(SETSEC, sector, 0);
            bios(SETDMA, dma, 0);
            bios(WRITE, 1, 0);
            dma += 128;
        }
    }
    bdos(SELDISK, olddrive);
}
```

Following is the header section of SUPERSET, which should have appeared with the first installment of this series, but was inadvertently omitted.

HEADER SECTION OF SUPERSET

```
#include    ''a:tpr
intf.c''    /* short form
            of printf() */
/*          Macros which apply to either single or double density. */
#define     ESC         '\033'
#define     CLEAR       putchar('\032')
#define     DIM         putchar(ESC); putchar(')')
#define     BRIGHT      putchar(ESC); putchar('(')
#define     WIPEL       putchar(ESC); putchar('R')
#define     PROMPT      cursor(21,0); WIPEL; WIPEL; WIPEL
#define     FILENAME    14
#define     SELDISK     14
#define     SETTRK      10
#define     SETSEC      11
#define     SETDMA      12
#define     WRITE       14
#define     CURDRIVE    0X0004

/*          Explanation of #defines:

            ESC         escape character
            CLEAR       clear video screen
            DIM         turn on dim video attribute
            BRIGHT      turn on bright video attribute
            WIPEL       clear current line on video screen
            PROMPT      move cursor to line 21 and clear 3 lines
            FILENAME    maximum size of CP/M filename
            SELDISK     select disk bdos service
            SETTRK      set track bios call
            SETSEC      set sector bios call
            SETDMA      set buffer address for disk I/O
            WRITE       write sector bios call
            CURDRIVE    address containing current drive # */

/*          Macros specific for single or double density. The set
            actually used is toggled by #defining SD or DD (but not
            both!). */

#define     DD

#ifdef      DD
#define     KEYTABL     0XE16B
#define     ENDTABL     0XE187
#define     LIMIT       0XE1FA
#define     BOOTSWITCH  0XE19C
#define     BOOTLENGTH  0XE19D
#define     BOOTCOMMAND 0XE19E
#define     BIOS        0XE100
#define     FSTTRK      1
#define     LSTTRK      1
#define     FSTSEC      4
#define     LSTSEC      5

#endif

#ifdef      SD
#define     KEYTABL     0XE56B
#define     ENDTABL     0XE587
#define     LIMIT       0XE600
#define     BOOTSWITCH  0XE589
#define     BOOTLENGTH  0XE58A
#define     BOOTCOMMAND 0XE58B
#define     BIOS        0XE500
#define     FSTTRK      2
#define     LSTTRK      2
#define     FSTSEC      4
#define     LSTSEC      6
#endif

/*          Explanation of #defines:

            KEYTABL     address of jump table to key defs
            ENDTABL     end of jump table
            LIMIT       first location AFTER key defs
            BOOTSWITCH  contains warm/cold/both/none choice
            BOOTLENGTH  # of chars in boot command + 1
            BOOTCOMMAND starting address of boot command
            BIOS        starting address of bios
            FSTTRK      first track to write
            LSTTRK      last track to write
            FSTTRK      first sector to write
            LSTTRK      last sector to write */
```

* * * * * * *

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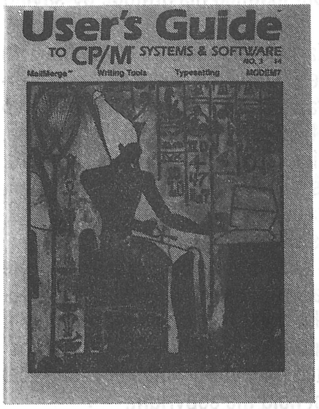

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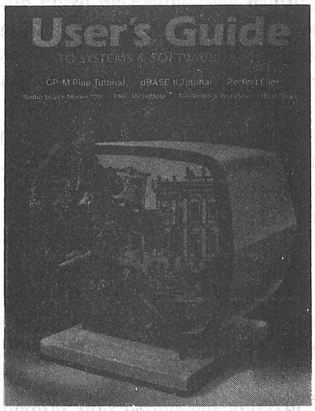

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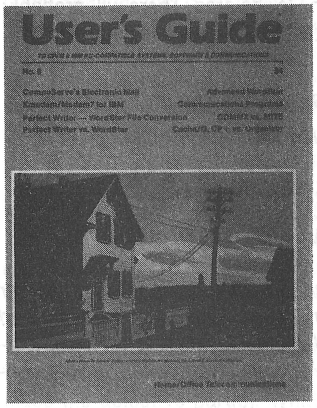

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FOG

HARDWARE REVIEWS

Quickie Review of Juki 6100 Daisywheel Printer

by Frank Muennemann

Product: Juki model 6100 printer

Features:
- -Software compatible with Diablo 630 (honest!).
- -Uses Triumph/Adler printwheels, 100 characters.
- -Uses IBM selectric ribbons.
- -Maximum paper width is 13″.
- -Print speed is 17 cps, Shannon text (this rating is much like the EPA gas mileage ratings, it's useful only for comparison purposes; the speed you actually get is somewhat slower, depending on your printing habits.)
- -Interface is directly Osborne 1 compatible through the Centronics connector; you need a centronics cable.
- -Noise level is not rated by manufacturer.

Controls:
- -A spacing switch selects proportional space, 15/12/10 characters per inch.
- -Reset, Pause, and Formfeed are membrane switches on the front.
- -The paper bail has an automatic feed-to-top-of-form control.
- -Dip switches inside select different language character sets, auto line feed on/off, impression level high/low, immediate/line-at-a-time printing, continuous/cut paper, paper length 11″/12″, line spacing 6 lines per inch/8 lines per inch.

Good things about the Juki:
- -It's cheap: mine was $499 plus shipping from a mail-order vendor.
- -Spare ribbons and printwheels (in many typestyles) are easy to get at office supply stores, and probably will remain easy to get for many years.
- -The printwheels have 100 characters, 98 are accessible through WordStar without modification; you can get the other 2 with user-functions.
- -The printwheels can be changed during printing (use the WordStar ^C function to pause the print), so you can have italic or special characters if you buy appropriate printwheels.
- -The construction appears to be very rugged.
- It beeps politely when you make it form feed or feed to top of form.
- -It beeps more sternly when you take out the printwheel or something happens to upset the machine.
- -The cut sheet mode is MUCH more convenient than the WordStar "pause for paper change" option.
- -Print quality and alignment are excellent-- better than Diablo's.
- -The Juki people have been around for many years; although this is their first printer, they've made typewriters and sewing machines for a long time.
- The printer looks nice.

Not so good things about the Juki:
- -There's no paper-out switch.
- -The printwheels are expensive (about $29 each).
- -It's hard to find a selectric style cloth ribbon.
- -There's no pinfeed available, tractor feed costs about $130 extra.
- -It's a little noisier than Silver Reed or Transtar.
- -There are only two page lengths switch selectable; you can set other page lengths through software commands, but WordStar will replace these.

Closing warning to owners/potential owners:
- -Adler Triumph printwheels come with two different hub styles. The one with a beveled flange doesn't work on the Juki, so take the Juki printwheel with you to the store and make sure the hubs are identical. Don't mail-order T/A printwheels.

* * * * * * *

Real Time Clock for Ozzie

by David Haldeman

After editing three or four different versions of a dBase II command file or an MBASIC program and finding that I had put the latest revisions in an obsolete version, I decided that I needed some kind of file-stamper to tell me when the last update was made. No sooner had the thought crossed my mind than there arrived in the mail a combination mailing of products available for the Osborne 1. This mailing was put together by a very thoughtful company in Oregon, Spite Software. (Yes, it was named to Spite OCC for not fully supporting Software promises.) Among the many interesting items available was the RTC-60 Real time clock, from JG Communications, Tucson, AZ.

A real-time clock is a device which tells the time and/or date right on the screen of your computer. Many of the 16 bit machines have them and they can be quite useful for timing routines or merely knowing what time it is! Another use is called file stamping. Every time a file is accessed (edited) and re-written to disk, the file stamper remembers the time and date of the update and shows it in the directory entry.

Skeptical and Optimistic reside in my brain concurrently, so I thought to myself, "for $80 I can not only satisfy my adult toy instinct, but possibly have a very useful device for letting me keep track of latest updates." So I forked over the bucks and waited. 6 Weeks later, the clock is here, and I am more than satisfied with it.

The clock is small and compact, with an on-board battery to keep the time even when Ozzie is sleeping. It fits into the parallel port, slipping under the main circuit board. The printer or other IEEE-488 peripheral can be plugged in right over it. The case can be closed over it on either the tan or blue case model. No version is yet available for the Executive.

When I want the date or time to appear in a document printed from WordStar or SuperCalc, I merely type in the @ symbol followed by the letter D for date and T for time. When the file is printed, the printed version will automatically date the letter or document. There is a program supplied with the software for the clock which will process MailMerge files and date and/or time stamp the individual name or data being processed. The clocksetting program allows formatting of date in several different formats, including day of week and numeric representation. There are many combinations of date and time available.

The manual, softbound in a leatherette binder, is extremely well documented and generally is easy to understand. There is enough information to keep hackers and casual users alike busy for quite a while. Only a few misleading statements keep the user from fully understanding what the writers had in mind. For instance, the clock software needs a 58K CPM system (or at least a system that is 1K less than your normal system.) But during the installation procedures, a message is given that states that a 57K CP/M system is being created. No big deal, but when COG resident hacker Brian Rau was asked to rewrite WSPATCH (for blinking cursor, arrow keys and 80 columns) to work with 57K, it was found that we really had a 58K system. At another place, it suggests that the function keys need redefined. Of course, when CP/M is moved it creates a new system with the original default parameters (STANDARD SERIAL PRINTER, etc.). For quite a while, I was convinced the connection to the printer was bad until I realized that I was still configured for Serial printer while I am using CENTRONICS. Other than those two misleading statements, however the documentation is very good. Bulletins are available to detail 1/60th second accuracy, Drive C modification, dBase II datestamping, Automatic Modem Updates and SuperCalc2 Access.

cont. on page 31

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CALENDAR

Under this heading you will find the listing of activities and events of Affiliated Member Organizations. Listings are the responsibility of organization officers. Officers must have corrections into FOG office by the first of the month prior to publication (March 1st for the April issue). For a list of other groups, see ***"CONTACTS"*** later in this issue, in back issues starting January, 1983, or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the FOG offices. Please include a note with your geographical area.

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
1st Su	Apr 1	Syracuse, NY	82-SOUP	1:00pm	Location Varies — Confirm	315-471-1405
1st M	Apr 2	Milwaukee, WI	22-MilwOG	7:00pm	Engin & Math Science Bldg. Rm E495, Univ. of WI	414-691-4241
	Apr 2	Jackson, MS	58-MCPM	6:00pm	R & D Center, 3825 Ridgewood Rd,, 5th Fl Conf Rm.	601-366-0928
	Apr 2	Menlo Park,CA	68-SMOG^3	7:30pm	Crane Place, 1331 Crane	415-326-2543
	Apr 2	Tacoma, WA	72-TOG	7:00pm	Pierce Co. Library (Basement Mtg Rm) 404 Garfield So.	206-752-5582
1st Tu	Apr 3	Oberlin, OH	9-^Ob^Os	7:00pm	Lower level, Main Library, Oberlin College	216-775-8290
	Apr 3	Santa Maria, CA	42-SMOG	7:00pm	Allstate Savings & Loan, 401 South Broadway	805-937-1128
	Apr 3	Oakwood, OH	79-DOUG	7:30pm	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Dixon Ave.	513-932-6990
1st W	Apr 4	Stockton, CA	11-SOG	7:00pm	Allen's Computerland 4343 Pacific Ave.	209-475-8440
	Apr 4	Sacramento, CA	61-SOG	7:00pm	SMUD Training Bldg, 1708 59th St	916-422-3260
	Apr 4	Enid, OK	77-FOG/E	5:30pm	706 W. Maine	405-233-9103
1st Th	Apr 5	Santa Clara, CA	1-1st FOG SV	7:30pm	5201 Patrick Henry Drive (loading dock entrance)	415-856-0954
	Apr 5	Denver, CO	4-DOG	8:00pm	Masonic Temple, 3550 Federal Blvd.	303-759-0359
	Apr 5	W. Lafayette, IN	34-HOG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	317-743-5275
	Apr 5	Auckland, NZ	53-NZOG	7:30pm	20 Kingsley Avenue	659-738
	Apr 5	Santa Rosa, CA	56-No. Bay FOG	7:00pm	Valley Oak Park Rec Hall, 2600 Northcoast	707-546-0145
	Apr 5	Sitka, AK	83-BUG	7:30pm	Human Services Center, Moller Dr.	907-747-5372
kster Th	Apr 5	Maitland, FL	20-CFlOG	7:00pm	Lake Faith Villas, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
each Th	Apr 5	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
1st F	Apr 6	Wiesbaden Germany	24-AGOG	7:00pm	Hainerberg Cafeteria	0612-213276
1st Sa	Apr 7	Lexington, KY	32-KOG	12:00n	Room 128, Erickson Hall, University of Kentucky	606-623-1884
2nd Su	Apr 8	Miami, FL	26-GCOUG	1:00pm	F.I.U Tamiami Campus, Building DM, Room 100	305-255-7827
	Apr 8	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	2:30pm	Downtown Branch Amarillo Public Library	806-355-7509
2nd M	Apr 9	Fayetteville, AR	23-AFOG	7:00pm	Alternates between Ft. Smith — CONFIRM	501-575-2980
	Apr 9	Fresno, CA	35-FROG	7:00pm	Village Computer Sy stems, 3081 W. Bullard	209-222-2233
	Apr 9	Evansville, IN	46-E-OSBUG	6:30pm	Oaklyn Branch Evansville Library, Oakhills & Lynch	812-479-5108
	Apr 9	Toronto, Ont	49-TASOFOG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	416-889-2072
	Apr 9	Charlotte, NCt	71-LOGIC	7:30pm	CONFIRM	704-377-1154
2nd Tu	Apr 10	Ames, IA	12-Midwest FOG	7:00pm	IA State (old engineering annex) W. Lincoln Way	515-266-8764
	Apr 10	Memphis, TN	15-MOG	7:00pm	34th Fl., Clark Bldg., Federal Express Conf. Rm	901-767-2350
	Apr 10	Mill Valley, CA	31-MOG	7:00pm	West America Bank, Strawberry Village	415-892-2713
	Apr 10	Lincoln, NE	39-Lincoln LOG	7:30pm	Smith Curtis Bldg., NE Wesleyan Univ., 52nd & St. Paul	402-472-1392
	Apr 10	Omaha, NE	44-OACP/MUG	7:00pm	CONFIRM	402-348-0440
	Apr 10	Montreal, PQ	73-Microcozm	6:30pm	AES Data, 100 Alexis Nihon Blvd, Ste. 810	514-849-7761
2nd W	Apr 11	Oakland, CA	3-East Bay FOG	6:00pm	B & B Electric, 2832 Ford Street	415-834-9346
	Apr 11	Vancouver, BC	17-VPCC	7:30pm	Hastings Community Center, 3096 East Hastings	604-298-6990
	Apr 11	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	7:00pm	Preferred Utilities Mfg, 11 South St	203-775-1102
	Apr 11	Clayton, MO	55-SLOG	7:00pm	Mid County Library, Central & MD	314-862-6239
	Apr 11	Oklahoma City, OK	67-OKLOG	7:00pm	3400 N.W. Grand Blvd	405-843-5925
	Apr 11	Cleveland, OH	75-COG	7:00pm	Trinity Cathedral House, East 22nd & Euclid Ave.	216-871-2532
	Apr 11	Athens, GA	81-COG	7:30pm	Athens Federal Savings, Barnett Shoals Road	404-353-2127

Continued next page

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
2nd Th	Apr 12	Davis, CA	6-DOG	7:30pm	CONFIRM	916-756-2967
	Apr 12	Sioux City, IA	38-SOG	7:30pm	Western Iowa Tech., Room 508	712-252-2182
	Apr 12	Modesto, CA	48-Tule FOG		CONFIRM	209-578-4909
	Apr 12	Medford, OR	54-RVOG	7:30pm	33 No. Central #306	503-482-8646
each Th	Apr 12	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
2nd F	Apr 13	Salinas, CA	5-MBAOCUG	7:00pm	Castroville Fire Station, Speegle & Pomber	408-449-4021
2nd Sa	Apr 14	Bangkok Thailand	36-BOG	1:00pm	Action Computers 5/26 Saladaeng Road, Silom	662-311-4966
	Apr 14	Louisville, KY	64-PCC	1:00pm	Univ. of Louisvile, Shelby Campus, Rm 202 Burhans Hall	502-423-0451
	Apr 14	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	1:00pm	Liberal Arts Bldg, Triton College	312-654-0986
3rd M	Apr 16	Raleigh, NC	8-ROCC	7:30pm	CONFIRM — Dreyfus Aud., Research Triangle Inst.	919-782-9576
	Apr 16	Oberlin, OH	9-^Ob^Os	7:00pm	Lower level, Main Library, Oberlin College	216-775-8290
	Apr 16	Wenatchee, WA	10-WOG	7:00pm	Computer Systems Marketing,1030 North Wenatchee	509-884-3279
	Apr 16	Detroit, MI	14-DeFOG	7:30pm	Ford Tech Center Cafeteria, 1700 Rotunda Dr, Dearborn	313-471-1342
	Apr 16	Edmonton, Alb	45-KOG	7:30pm	Alberta Vocational College, 10215 — 108 Street	403-459-0416
	Apr 16	Anchorage, AK	63-GLOB	8:30pm	Anchorage Comm. College, 2nd Floor — Bldg K	907-277-0950
3rd Tu	Apr 17	Cincinnati, OH	27-COG	7:00pm	Central Trust Center 6th floor, 5th & Main Streets	513-232-4076
	Apr 17	San Luis Obispo, CA	47-CCOG	7:00pm	Chris Jespersen School, 251 Grand Ave.	805-466-8311
3rd W	Apr 18	Austin, TX	7-AEIOU	6:30pm	Old Quarry Library off Far West Blvd.	512-837-7539
	Apr 18	Oak Ridge, TN	13-SMOG	7:30pm	ECS 136 Fairbanks (**OR** 11505 Kingston Pike, Knoxville)	615-482-7919
	Apr 18	Las Vegas, NV	25-VOG	6:00pm	Las Vegas Library, 1726 East Charleston	702-452-2544
	Apr 18	Humboldt, CA	29-HOG	7:00pm	Room 126 Science Bldg., Humboldt State	707-445-2074
	Apr 18	Dunbar, WV	59-Valley FOG	6:30pm	Dunbar Public Library	304-727-6436
	Apr 18	Walnut Creek, CA	60-Mt. DOG	7:00pm	SF Federal, 1660 Olympic Blvd, Diablo Rm	415-933-2665
3rd Th	Apr 19	Santa Clara, CA	1-1st FOG SV	7:30pm	5201 Patrick Henry Drive (loading dock entrance)	415-856-0954
	Apr 19	Provo, UT	30-KAOS	8:00pm	Wiltec Research Co. 488 South 500 West	801-225-8293
	Apr 19	College Station, TX	43-AGGNOG	5:30pm	A & A Building, Texas A & M Univ.	409-845-5814
	Apr 19	Ann Arbor, MI	37-TOGA^2	7:00pm	Neuro Science Bldg. Univ. of MI, 1103 East Huron St	313-662-9026
	Apr 19	Tulsa, OK	51-OUT	7:00pm	Micro Systems, 2010 South 68th East Ave	918-584-5610
	Apr 19	Richmond, VA	52-CVOG	7:00pm	Red Cross Bldg, 4th and Main	804-270-9404
	Apr 19	Beaverton, OR	57-OSBUG	7:00pm	Tektronix Bldg 50, Auditorium	503-642-9692
	Apr 19	St. Croix, VI	70-StCOUG	7:30pm	College of the Virgin Islands	809-773-7551
alter Th	Apr 19	Maitland, FL	20-CFIOG	7:00pm	Lake Faith Villas, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
each Th	Apr 19	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
3rd F	Apr 20	Houston, TX	76-OUCH	7:30pm	Univ. Houston, 101 Farish Hall, KIVA Rm. (Use lot 13A off Cullen)	713-688-8149
3rd Sa	Apr 21	Kenai, AK	18-PenFOG	10:00am	Room V111, Kenai Peninsula Comm. College	907-262-5801
	Apr 21	Norfolk, VA	78-TOG	9:00am	Armed Forces Staff College, Hampton Blvd	804-495-1596
4th Su	Apr 22	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	2:30pm	CONFIRM	806-355-7509
	Apr 22	Pittsburgh, PA	50-TROG	2:30pm	Mellon Science Building, Duquesne Univ.	412-456-3946
4th M	Apr 23	Mill Valley, CA	31-MOG	6:30pm	CONFIRM	415-892-2713
4th Tu	Apr 24	Wichita, KS	21-OPEK	7:30pm	St. Paul's Methodist Church, 13th & Broadway	316-945-8389
	Apr 24	Greenville, SC	41-POGO	6:30pm	Computer Dynamics, 1540 Wade Hampton Blvd.	803-233-3434
	Apr 24	St. Louis, MO	55-SLOG	7:00pm	Thornhill Library, 12863 Willowyck	314-862-6239
4th W	Apr 25	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	7:00pm	Preferred Utilities Mfg, 11 South St	203-775-1102
	Apr 11	Athens, GA	81-COG	7:30pm	Athens Federal Savings, Barnett Shoals Road	404-353-2127
4th Th	Apr 26	San Francisco, CA	2-SF FOG	7:00pm	St. Aidan's Church, Goldmine & Diamond Hgts.	415-334-2851
Th	Apr 26	Lancaster, PA	74-LOG	7:30pm	Fire Protection Sys, 1873 Lincoln Hwy East	717-898-8929
each Th	Apr 26	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	7:00pm	Room 203 Orlando College, Lee Road	305-273-5335
last Su	Apr 29	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	1:00pm	Liberal Arts Bldg, Triton College	312-654-0986
last Tu	Apr 24	Santa Barbara, CA	69-OSBUG	7:30pm	SB Planning Rm, 105 E. Anapamu St	805-375-3258
last W	Apr 25	Richland, WA	19-TROG	7:00pm	1776 Fowler	509-375-3258

Continued next page

Day	Date	City	A.M.O.	Time	Address	Contact No.
????		Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	33-AIKOG		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	874-4798
????		, CA	65-OPMUG		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	408-458-9047
????		Sierra Madre, CA	66-SMOG		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	818-355-8825

Helping Your Group Affiliate

by Gale Rhoades

Any member of a local group may request the A. M. O. (Affiliated Member Organization) packet. The packet contains some background information on how FOG got started, Frank Morton's suggestions for forming a group and keeping it going, a copy of FOG's bylaws, a sample set of bylaws (to provide quidelines for any group), a form listing all of the information we would like to know about your group, a sample ***FOGHORN***, and FOG membership application forms.

If you have any specific questions, be sure to let us know so we can include the answers with the packet.

The following items must be received before your application for affiliation is presented to the Board of Trustees:

1. A signed copy of the group's bylaws — it is important that the bylaws reflect a non-profit operation in accordance with section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. FOG is not interested in running the local organizations. There are no requirements as to when, where, or how often you meet; whether or not your group is incorporated; what subjects are covered at the meetings; etc.
2. A letter requesting affiliation signed by one of the officers.
3. A list of officers with their FOG membership numbers (or application for membership). You must have at least three officers and the positions of President, Treasurer, and Librarian must be filled. (Thus a group can be as small as three members).
4. The meeting details — when, where, who to contact for meeting information — for the **CALENDAR** listing.

NOTE: Provided that the officers are FOG members, items 3 and 4 are satisfied by the return of a completed information form.

Affiliation becomes official when approved at a Board of Trustees meeting but many of the facilities of affiliation are put into action before that. As soon as we have a complete and correct application, the group is added to the **CALENDAR**. The group may also, if they choose, get on the library update service at the same time. Recent mailings for the President's Council also go out immediately.

* * * * * * *

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I feel the clock is a steal at $80 and recommend it to anyone who feels accuracy of record keeping is important. It's hard to argue about when a document, statement or list was printed if the date and time are right there on it.

[*Will it interfere with my hard disk operations? David*]

David Haldeman is secretary and treasurer for the Cincinnati Osborne Group, an Affiliated Member Organization. For information call 513-232-4076. The address is 6404 Coffey Street, Cincinnati, OH 45230.

* * * * * * *

Drive C

reviewed by J. Nick Barker

I guess my motives for purchasing a Drive C were not the norm — like many I have had occasional BDOS errors which erased so much, and when I upgraded to D.D. the situation was worse- twice as often, twice as much information. The faults never occurred at the dealer as usual, so I decided to move away from the primeval floppy with the hope that the BDOS errors would go.

Apart from the necessity to chase the order with a few transpacific phone calls it arrived nicely packed and well presented. I installed it as suggested but made two changes; I had to cut a cable tie so the video plug would reach, and I used a foam self-adhesive strip to fill the gap between the Drive C face and the panel on my tan case machine. The Drive C is neat in a blue case, but needs a more decorative packer than the ones provided for the larger tan case pockets (in my opinion). A disc is provided with 3 programs — one, the loader, operates like SETUP, and modifies CP/M to recognize the new drive. The other two are filing archives, which I have not used but look great if you move much around and need to keep track of it all. The loader is 6K, and the 2 archive programs are 42K.

I could not get a start as described in the well presented booklet, but I turned on the printer to record all and then it fixed itself! I've since found it necessary to have the printer on whenever the Drive C is used, or else disconnected, and this is no problem (I have a Centronics-connected printer). Only if the printer is unplugged during a Drive C session does the unit go into orbit, but a reset and reboot and it's all there (after a few anxious moments)! To my mind that is the only surprise, otherwise it does all that it's supposed to — fast, silent (refreshingly so), and I'm only sorry that I didn't get the 380K version! Very rarely XDIR gets confused and credits the drive with a 380K limit, but an error message appears after the 192K mark which translates to 'full house' when you go berserk with PIPing programs into it.

Unfortunately it does not support hard disks (this may change). It uses 2K blocks (like SD), but does live throughout reset operations, permits any of the drives to be C:, and comes with the video adapter built in as well as the original video plug option. My maintenance tech describes it as very professional, impossible to duplicate and well made. It's really quite something, but it is expensive. The upgrade to 380K was to be field upgradable, but I believe it is now not, so a return to the factory is necessary.

For those wondering about my old enemy BDOS — I once had an error on the Drive C in countless applications, but now with an upgraded ROM and cleaned heads I don't get any now in the MPI's either, so I can only say that it was a big improvement (but this may be influenced by other changes, so take note).

The biggest question is — should I have programs, or data, or half and half on the Drive C? It depends on your application, but a dBase sort really flies etc., and, after months of use, I'm not sure of the best combinations.

It's not difficult to get the unit to fire up and "PIP'ed in" all in autostart, but takes a little experimentation. The time that happens in is only marginally longer than a conventional start, because the loading to/from Drive C is virtually instantaneous. The time is spent in the program download from the A/B drives.

Perhaps we can get a nonvolatile one next!

* * * * * * *

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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

ADDRESS BOOK

by Byron Davies

This program, by ESCAPE ENGINEERING, 2536 S. Diamond, Santa Ana, CA 92704, was originally offered with the name CONTACT! It is a simple system for entering and retrieving personal, business, club, and similar categories of names, addresses, and phone numbers.

It has three advantages over similar programs I've seen: first is the price of $29.95; second is its Sort function; and third is its ability to print selected listings in different formats such as telephone directories, mailing labels, or fanfold lists of all entries either sorted or unsorted.

ADDRESS BOOK is written in CBASIC and runs quickly, although sort time gets longer as files grow longer. Entry structure is fixed, but should accommodate most users: Business, Last Name, First Name, Spouse's Name, Unit # (meaning apartment, suite, etc.), Street, City, State, ZIP, Home Phone, Work Phone, Category, and Notes. Omitting one or more of these fields doesn't introduce corresponding blank lines on the printout. Records can be sorted by any of the entry fields. The Category entry permits sorts by any user-selected coding of from 1 to 5 letters, numbers, or characters, so you can keep business contacts separate from your computer club and your Christmas card list. However, the individual who is both a business contact and a member of your computer club must either be listed once in each category or you must code a separate category for all those who are in both sets. Not too difficult, really, particularly because ADDRESS BOOK is very easy to edit and modify, although each entry must be done individually, with no "global" changes possible. It's also best not to show an individual's home address and include a business connection as incidental information; the printout would be Joe Blow, IBM, 123 Main St, Anyburg, CA 99999. The Notes entry is for items that are not to be printed. Similarly, don't list a spouse whom you don't want on the address label. Also, mailing labels can only be printed one across.

The manual is clear and complete, covering the elementary necessities for the beginner but allowing more experienced users to skip directly to operating procedures. The manual specifies the minor differences between running on the 0-1 and on the Executive. The back cover even lists the standard two-letter abbreviations for States.

ADDRESS BOOK is not a full relational database management system, but it's effective, fast and inexpensive. Its limitations are not crippling or intrusive, error-trapping is good, and the menus don't need constant backup from the manual.

Byron is President of San Francisco FOG, an affiliated Member Organization. SF FOG meets the fourth Thursday of each month at St Aidan's Church, corner of Goldmine Drive and Diamond Heights Blvd, at 7:00pm.

* * * * * * *

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SYSTEM NOTES

Australia (hot climate) and a lightweight Ozzie

by J. Nick Barker

Whether they don't like operating upside down or our climate is particularly severe, after adding the DD option many stories about overheating Ozzies emerge. The local network repair agency, since the Chapter 11, is Hills Industries, who as part of their preventative maintenance contracts add a fan as standard from contract commencement ($190 Aust/pa). I have heard many stories for and against, and purchased a fan to reduce the BDOS event. In a word, the noise got me even before I fitted it, so I found an alternative home for it.

To evaluate the problem I ran Ozzie naked (no case) on my desk for 3 weeks, and BDOS decreased a little (say 30%). I drilled a pattern of 3/16″ diameter holes over a 4x4″ area behind the A drive, a diamond pattern of the same size holes about 3x4″ over the CRT element, and the complete top and bottom of each disk pouch (about 4x4″ four times), and enlarged all the holes on the front faces (3 groups) to double the area. This was 4000 holes!!, and I used a piece of metal mesh as a guide to get it looking neat.

[THIS DRILLING MAY INCREASE RF INTERFERENCE TO TV RECEPTION ETC.] The overall effect — amazing. Heat rises noticeably off the CRT and draws in cool air. It runs much cooler and is as good as total case removal as far as BDOS is concerned. I think it is better than the fans; less dust if moved (due to the slower air velocity), it's quieter, generates no heat itself and gives no switching glitches. Both remove the weatherproof aspects, but it works out at around $50 cheaper! I didn't work out the weight change but it must be lighter!!

* * * * * * *

Use DU-V77 to Recover From Diskette Directory Crashes

by Frank Dunaway

We see many articles and letters in the ***FOGHORN***, various microcomputer magazines, etc. concerning the causes, prevention, machine fixes, etc. for disk error problems. This information is helpful to most of us because the more we know about the workings and the shortcomings of our operating system, the better prepared we are to cope with the unexpected.

I do a good deal of work in WordStar, which operates under CP/M on my Osborne 1. When I am attempting to store a document, no screen message is more unwelcome than the ubiquitous:

```
Bdos Err on B: Bad Sector
B>
```

WordStar is most unforgiving. SuperCalc usually aborts the disk command and lets you load another disk, but WordStar almost always drops you back to CP/M. Then, all your hard work is left in memory in the WordStar work area.

On many occasions, I have had this happen and have gone through the process of loading DDT, moving my document from the work area (location 7321 for the Osborne 1) to the I/O area, then saving the document on another disk. (This process was well documented in the ***Portable Companion***, April/May 1983, p. 74).

The above allows you to recover your work that was in memory at the time of the BDOS error. The rub comes when you discover that the real problem is that your disk directory has crashed, and that the ENTIRE DISK is now unreadable. A crashed directory is usually the culprit if you try to display the directory with DIR or XDIR and get another BDOS error. The public domain program, FINDBAD will confirm that the directory is bad. But, what to do?

I have experienced this failure on at least 10 occasions over the last year or so. I have blamed the machine, had the disk drives checked, used new diskettes, etc. but the problem recurs — not very frequently but often enough to be annoying.

Last fall, I obtained a copy of Ward Christensen's DU-V77. Doug Hurst's articles in the ***FOGHORN*** provided an additional overview of the program's power.

Since then, I have been experimenting with the program. I have tried many other disk utility programs but none of them allow me to easily perform specific operations on the disk at the individual sector level. A very powerful capability of DU-V77 is its ability to "force read" from an apparently bad sector and "force write" to such a sector. DU can't do this every time, but usually it can.

Through trial and error, I have found DU can be used to recover crashed directories. At times, it is possible to recover only part of the directory, but "half a loaf beats none."

This process is new — at least to everyone I have told about my results. Thus, I want to share it with fellow FOG members.

A word of **CAUTION** — DU-V77 is not a toy, but an exceptionally powerful tool. DU makes PERMANENT changes directly on the disk, whereas DDT does things in memory and you have a chance to change your mind before you make a change to a disk that you may not be able to reverse.

If you ascertain that the directory has crashed, load DU-V77 and place the crashed disk in drive B. Input the following commands for DU:

: **LB**<**CR**> Log to B
: **G00;D**<**CR**> Read Allocation Group 00 and display the first Sector of the Group (this is the directory area).

At this point, you will see a display somewhat like:

```
++READ failed, sector may be invalid++
G=00:00, T=3, S=1, PS=0
00  00544553 54535444  20202020 0000000A  *.TESTSTD     ....*
10  4E4F0000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *NO..............*
20  00544553 544D4F4E  20202020 0000000A  *.TESTMON     ....*
30  52530000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *RS..............*
40  00504552 53464F52  4D46524D 0000000E  *.PERSFORMFRM....*
50  57640000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *Wd..............*
60  0054494D 53484545  54202020 0000004E  *.TIMSHEET     ...N*
70  72727677 78797A7B  82820000 00000000  *rsvwxyz(........*
```

At this point, enter

: **W**<**CR**> Write back to the same location

You may get a message which you should IGNORE:

```
++WRITE failed++
G=00:00, T=3, S=1, PS=0
```

Here, enter:

: **G00;D**<**CR**> Read Allocation Group 00, display first sector

There should now be no error message in the display and you should be able to read the directory again. My display was now as follows:

cont. on page 34

```
G=00:00, T=3, S=1, PS=0
00  00544553 54535444  20202020 0000000A  *.TESTSTD    ....*
10  4E4F0000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *NO..............*
20  00544553 544D4F4E  20202020 0000000A  *.TESTMON    ....*
30  52530000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *RS..............*
40  00504552 53464F52  4D46524D 0000000E  *.PERSFORMFRM....*
50  57640000 00000000  00000000 00000000  *Wd..............*
60  0054494D 53484545  54202020 0000004E  *.TIMSHEET   ...N*
70  72727677 78797A7B  82820000 00000000  *rsvwxyz(........*
:
```

Exit from DU and use DIR or XDIR to check for readability.

I have experienced such directory crashes mainly when working with WordStar. On one occasion, however, the directory crashed when using SuperCalc, and the recovery process worked without a hitch.

In most cases, I have been successful in recovering the entire directory and then reading the disk in total. On two occasions, however, I was able to recover only half of the directory, but at least I was able to directly read the files in this half of the directory and I could search for whatever else was important with other functions of DU.

What causes these failures? One theory holds that the magnetic media of the diskette gradually loses its magnetism until the drive head is unable to detect the recorded magnetic polarity. Cleaning the head may help somewhat. However, a better answer may be to renew the magnetic field by copying the diskette.

The DO scheme has gotten me out of several very tight spots. It has recovered at least half of the crashed directory every time I have tried it. Perhaps it will be helpful to someone else.

Frank Dunaway is the vice president of the Long Island Osborne Network (LION). For information on joining this group (and maybe encouraging the members to join the FOG network), write to P. O. Box 190, Long Island, NY, 11572.

* * * * * * *

CONVERT.BAS

by Scott Ingels

CONVERT.BAS was written so as to allow me some way of running my basic programs that I had from my Ozzie 1 on my Osborne Executive. All the programs that I had written or received, that used POKEs to video memory, are now useless to me on the Executive because video memory was moved from C000 (61440 decimal) to F000 hex. After playing with it for a while I soon realized that there was something else missing. After several talks with OCC the solution was discovered. I had to add some lines to my program to make it operate on both board 0 (where the program is) and board 7 (where video memory is). I have since learned that this also limits Mbasic from using some commands. So far the only one I have found that causes any troubles is the DEF command. There may be more. Just keep in mind that the more complicated the program the better chance that it won't run with POKEs to video memory. The lines I had to add were as follows:

```
AA=INP(0)
BB=AA OR &H40
OUT BB
```

Also, I had to add a line at the end of the program so as to return Mbasic to it's normal operating mode, this line is:

```
OUT AA
```

CONVERT will add these lines for you. It uses line number 1 and line 15999. You must insure that these line number don't appear in your program. If they do renumber using the RENUM command. What will happen if you have a line number 1 is that your line number 1 will over write the all important line number 1 that makes your program run.

This program will convert all POKEs from C000 to D000 (and the decimal equivalents) to the corresponding number on the Executive. It will also catch lines like A=61440 or A=&HC000, but will not catch an A=&HC001. It will also catch (and correct) lines like POKE 61440*128,95, but it will also flag it as a line with an error thereby telling you there is an error in that line number. Check the line, but unless it has something strange, it is probably alright. REM statements will also be corrected if there is the word POKE in them (and probably flag as an error). No need to worry here either.

As I've said there are some situations that this program can't correct, but it will tell you the line number of the situation that it can't figure out.

One more note; your program must be saved in ASCII for CONVERT to work on it. This is how you save in ASCII **SAVE "fileid.BAS",A**. The program is, shall we say, self-documented in that I have put in alot of checks to insure that you can't do the wrong thing.

I'm putting this program into public domain as my way of saying Thank You to the people that have contributed some real great programs to public domain. I need to thank some people for without there help this program would not have been written. Larry and Bill Strezitch of Montana Micro Computers in Great Falls, for there technical assistance. Gary Frank who assisted in the writing process. My father Donald C. Ingels for his knowledge. Last, but not least Osborne Computer Corp. Lets face it, there was no way I could have gotten what I needed without them. Thank You all.

Happy Computing to you all. If I can help or if someone comes up with a better way, please call me at 406-453-4220.

```
10 REM THIS PROGRAM CONVERTS OSZ 1 POKE STATEMENTS TO EXECUTIVE POKE
STATEMENTS
20 REM AUTHOR SCOTT INGELS FROM GROUG (THE GREAT FALLS OSBORNE USERS
   GROUP)
30 REM WITH HELP FROM FRIENDS LIKE LARRY STRIZICH, GARY FRANK, MONTANA
40 REM MICRO COMPUTERS, DONALD C. INGELS (MY FATHER) AND
50 REM AND OF COURSE OSBORNE COMPUTER CORP.
60 REM ***********************************************
70 REM A$(B) = THE LINE READ FROM THE ORIGINAL PROGRAM
80 REM Z$(1) = THE HEX POKE FROM YOUR PROGRAM LATER CHANGED TO Z$
90 REM Z$ = THE POKE NUMBER FROM YOUR PROGRAM (LATER MY PROGRAM)
100 REM C$ = FIRST PART OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT
110 REM D$ = LAST HALF OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT
120 REM F$ = THE DISK DRIVE I'M WORKING WITH
130 REM G$ = THE PROGRAM NAME I'M WORKING WITH
140 REM H$ = THE FILE TYPE (.BAS)
150 REM I$ = F$+G$+H$ (THE FULL FILE NAME)
160 REM K$ = YOUR PROGRAMS LINE NUMBER
170 REM X$ = THE CORRECTED HEX SECTION OF THE POKE STATEMENT
180 REM U$ = ''C'' THIS CHANGES &HF000 TO &HC000
190 REM V$ = LAST HALF OF THE HEX NUMBER I READ
200 REM ZZ = THE COUNTER FOR ERRORS (0=NO ERRORS, 2=ERRORS)
210 REM K = COUNTER IN FOR NEXT LOOP TO GET PROGRAM LINE NUMBER
220 REM L = 225 - NUMBER OF COLUMNS IN YOUR PROGRAMS LINE.
230 REM P = COUNTER OF LINES IN PROGRAM WHEN WRITING BACK TO DISK
240 REM BLINK$ = STARTS BLINKING SCREEN
250 REM NORMAL$ = STOPS BLINKING SCREEN
260 REM ***************************************************
270 REM BELOW IS THE DIRECT CURSOR POSITIONING FUNCTION
280 DEF FNXY$(R,C) = CHR$(27) + ''='' + CHR$(R+32) + CHR$(C+32)
290 REM BELOW IS THE FUNCTION TO CAUSE BLINKING DISPLAY
300 BLINK$=CHR$(27)+CHR$(94)
310 REM BELOW IS THE FUNCTION TO CAUSE NORMAL SCREEN DISPLAY
320 NORMAL$=CHR$(27)+CHR$(113)
330 REM THE NEXT THREE STEPS MAKE THE ^C INTO AN ESC
340 POKE &H452C,27
350 POKE &H4B8B,27
360 POKE &H5559,27
370 REM ************ THE PROGRAM STARTS HERE ************
380 PRINT CHR$(26)
390 PRINT ''This program is used to convert Osborne 1 POKE's in MBASIC
to''
400 PRINT''Executive POKE statements. Although it is slow in it's
   thinking it''
```

➪

```
410 PRINT ``is much faster then doing thinks by hand.''
420 PRINT ``The program reads in your program one line at a time. It
    then''
430 PRINT ``checks each line for `POKE'. If it finds on it checks to in-
    sure''
440 PRINT ``that it is a poke to video memory. If it isn't then the line
    is''
450 PRINT ``left as is and the program continues on. If the poke is to
    video''
460 PRINT ``memory then it is converted to the Executive format. At the
    end of''
470 PRINT ``the corrections one of two things is done. If errors were
    detected''
480 PRINT ``then Convert will load TEMP.BAS (It's copy of the program
    with it's''
490 PRINT ``corrections). If no errors were detected it will change
    TEMP.BAS''
500 PRINT ``into your program (deleting your old copy). There are some
    things''
510 PRINT ``that this program can't do. It won't correct a statement
    like''
520 PRINT ``A=61419 but it will catch A=61440. If you use the DEF
    function''
530 PRINT ``statement I have found that POKEing to video memory doesn't
    work at''
540 PRINT ``all on the Executive.''
550 PRINT BLINK$;'' ***NOTE*** ``;NORMAL$;
560 PRINT ``There are two warnings need to be said. Your''
570 PRINT ``program must not have a line number 1 cause if it does my
    program''
580 PRINT ``can't write it's line number 1 and your program has to be
    saved in''
590 PRINT ``ASCII. This is done with the command SAVE
    `fileid.BAS',A.''
600 PRINT:PRINT
610 PRINT ``IS YOUR PROGRAM SAVED IN ASCII (Y or N)? ``;
620 W$=INPUT$(1)
630 IF W$=``N'' THEN 2060
640 PRINT CHR$(26)
650 L=255
660 H$=''.BAS''
670 ZZ=0
680 XY$=FNXY$(12,18):PRINT XY$;
690 PRINT ``ENTER THE DRIVE YOUR PROGRAM IS ON. ``;
700 F$=INPUT$(1)
710 IF F$ >= ``A'' AND F$ <= ``P'' THEN 760
720 PRINT CHR$(26)
730 XY$=FNXY$(11,20):PRINT XY$;
740 PRINT CHR$(7);''SORRY CP/M WON'T ALLOW SUCH A DRIVE''
750 GOTO 680
760 F$=F$+'':``
770 PRINT CHR$(26)
780 XY$=FNXY$(12,10):PRINT XY$;
790 PRINT ``ENTER YOUR PROGRAMS NAME (``;BLINK$;
800 PRINT ``DON'T ``;NORMAL$;''INCLUDE file-type). ``;
810 INPUT G$
820 IF RIGHT$(G$,4)<>''.BAS'' THEN 860
830 PRINT CHR$(26):XY$=FNXY$(11,20):PRINT XY$;
840 PRINT CHR$(7);''PLEASE DON'T INCLUDE THE `.BAS'. ``
850 GOTO 780
860 PRINT CHR$(26):PRINT
870 I$=F$+G$+H$
880 REM THE NEXT LINE TRAPS AN ERROR IF THE FILE ISN'T ON DISK.
890 ON ERROR GOTO 1900
900 REM THE NEXT FOUR LINES ARE TO INSURE THAT YOUR PROGRAM IS SAVED IN
ASCII
910 OPEN ``I'',#1,I$
920 LINE INPUT#1,A$(1)
930 IF MID$(A$(1),1,1) > ``0'' AND MID$(A$(1),1,1) <=``9'' THEN 990
940 XY$=FNXY$(12,8):PRINT XY$;
950 PRINT ``THIS FILE ISN'T SAVED IN ASCII. PLEASE DO THAT FOR ME''
960 CLOSE #1
970 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT
980 GOTO 2060 `END OF PROGRAM
990 PRINT ``PLEASE WAIT WHILE I EDIT ``;BLINK$;I$;NORMAL$
1000 PRINT
1010 CLOSE #1
1020 PRINT ``FOR A 20K PROGRAM IT WILL TAKE ABOUT 15 MINUTES. ``;
1030 PRINT ``FOR A 5K PROGRAM IT''
1040 PRINT ``WILL TAKE ABOUT 3 MINUTES. SO GO AHEAD AND GET A PEPSI TO
     DRINK.''
1050 PRINT
1060 OPEN ``I'',#1,I$
1070 OPEN ``O'',#2,F$+``TEMP.BAS''
1080 B=1
1090 A$(1)=``1 AA=INP(0):BB=AA OR &H40:OUT 0,BB''
1100 PRINT #2,A$(1)
1110 REM LINE 1 OF YOUR OUTPUT FILE WILL ALWAYS BE A$(1)
1120 WHILE NOT EOF(1)
1130 LINE INPUT#1,A$(B)
1140 REM ***LOOP TO READ THE LINE ONE PLACE AT A TIME***
1150 FOR C=4 TO L
1160 REM THIS TEST TO SEE IF THERE IS ANYTHING MORE IN THE STATEMENT
1170 IF MID$(A$(B),C,2) <> ``'' THEN 1210
1180 C=L
1190 GOTO 1520
1200 REM THIS CHECKS FOR STATEMENTS LIKE `A=61440'
1210 IF MID$(A$(B),C,5)=``61440'' THEN GOSUB 1780
1220 REM THIS CHECKS FOR STATEMENTS LIKE `B=65535'
1230 IF MID$(A$(B),C,5)=``65535'' THEN GOSUB 1840
1240 REM THIS CHECKS FOR STATEMENTS LIKE `POKE 61440,85'
1250 IF MID$(A$(B),C,4)<>``POKE'' THEN 1520
1260 Z$=MID$(A$(B),C+5,5)
1270 Z$(1)=MID$(A$(B),C+5,6)
1280 REM THIS CHECKS TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS A POKE TO VIDEO MEMORY
1290 IF VAL(Z$) >= 61440! AND VAL(Z$) <= 65535! THEN 1480
1300 IF Z$(1)>=``&HF000'' AND Z$(1)<=``&HFFFF'' THEN 1420
1310 REM NOT A POKE TO VIDEO MEMORY SO PRINT ERROR MESSAGE
1320 ZZ=2 `THIS FLAGS A `LOAD' INSTEAD OF A `RUN' AT THE END OF THIS
     PROGRAM
1330 REM HERE IS WHERE WE GET THE PROGRAM LINE NUMBER
1340 FOR K=1 TO 6
1350 IF MID$(A$(B),K,1)='' '' THEN K$ = MID$(A$(B),1,K) ELSE 1390
1360 PRINT ``THERE IS A POKE IN LINE #``;
1370 PRINT K$;''THAT ISN'T TO VIDEO MEMORY. PLEASE CHECK IT''
1380 GOTO 1520
1390 NEXT K
1400 GOTO 1520
1410 REM THIS CHANGES THE VALUE IF IT IS ALREADY IN HEX FORMAT
1420 U$=``C''
1430 Y$=MID$(Z$(1),4,3)
1440 X$=U$+Y$
1450 GOTO 1490
1460 REM HERE IS WHERE WE CONVERT FROM OZZIE 1 POKE TO EXECUTIVE POKE
1470 REM IF IT ISN'T ALREADY IN THE HEX FORMAT.
1480 X$=HEX$(VAL(Z$)-&H3000)
1490 C$=MID$(A$(B),1,C+4)
1500 D$=MID$(A$(B),C+11,L)
1510 A$(B)=C$+``&H''+X$+D$
1520 NEXT C
1530 PRINT #2,A$(B)
1540 WEND
1550 CLOSE #1
1560 REM THIS IS TO BE THE LAST LINE IN YOUR CORRECTED PROGRAM
1570 A$(B)=``15999 OUT 0,AA''
1580 PRINT #2,A$(B)
```

cont. on page 36

```
1590 CLOSE #2
1600 REM HERE IS WHERE I SAVE THE CORRECTED COPY
1610 REM CHECK TO SEE IF THERE WERE ANY ERRORS
1620 IF ZZ=2 THEN 1730
1630 REM THIS IS WHERE I CHANGE TEMP.BAS (THE CORRECTED COPY) TO
1640 REM THE NAME OF YOUR PROGRAM.
1650 NAME F$+``TEMP.BAS'' AS I$
1660 PRINT CHR$(26)
1670 PRINT ``I'VE FOUND NO ERRORS SO I'M CHANGING ``F$;``TEMP.BAS TO
     ``;I$;'' AND''
1680 PRINT ``NOW I SHALL RUN IT FOR YOU SO YOU CAN VERIFY THAT IT
     WORKS.''
1690 FOR COUNT= 1 TO 500:NEXT COUNT
1700 RUN I$
1710 GOTO 2060 'END OF PROGRAM. NOT REQUIRED BUT NICE TO HAVE FOR SAFETY
1720 REM ERRORS WERE FOUND SO TELL THE USER THAT TEMP.BAS IS MY FILE
1730 PRINT ``I'VE FOUND ERRORS!! WHAT I'M GOING TO DO FOR YOU IS TO LOAD
     MY ``
1740 PRINT ``CORRECTED PROGRAM (``;F$;``TEMP.BAS) AND TO LEAVE
     ``;I$;'' AS IS.''
1750 LOAD F$+``TEMP.BAS''
1760 GOTO 2060 'END OF PROGRAM. NOT REQUIRED BUT NICE TO HAVE FOR SAFETY
1770 REM PATCH TO FIX THE X=61440 TYPE STATEMENT
1780 C$=MID$(A$(B),1,C-1)
1790 D$=MID$(A$(B),C+6,L)
1800 X$=``&HC000``
1810 A$(B)=C$+X$+D$
1820 RETURN
1830 REM ***PATCH TO FIX THE Y=65535 TYPE STATEMENT
1840 C$=MID$(A$(B),1,C-1)
1850 D$=MID$(A$(B),C+6,L)
1860 X$=``&HD000``
1870 A$(B)=C$+X$+D$
1880 RETURN
1890 REM THIS IS THE ERROR ROUTINE TO CATCH A FILE THAT DOESN'T EXIST.
1900 IF ERL <> 910 THEN 2030 'IF ERROR NOT IN LINE NUMBER 910 THEN 2030
1910 REM BELOW ERROR 53 IS THE 'FILE NOT ON DISK' ERROR. SEE EXECUTIVE
     MANUAL
1920 REM IN THE ERROR MESSAGE SECTION TO GET THE ERROR NUMBERS.
1930 IF ERR <> 53 THEN RESUME
1940 PRINT CHR$(26)
1950 XY$=FNXY$(11,12):PRINT XY$;
1960 PRINT ``PROGRAM ``;I$;'' DOESN'T EXIST. PLEASE REENTER''
1970 XY$=FNXY$(12,15):PRINT XY$;
1980 PRINT ``THIS TIME INCLUDE DRIVE, COLON, AND file-type? ``
1990 XY$=FNXY$(15,28):PRINT XY$;
2000 INPUT `` ``;I$
2010 PRINT CHR$(26)
2020 RESUME
2030 PRINT CHR$(26)
2040 PRINT ``AN UNKNOWN ERROR HAS OCCURRED AND I CAN'T HELP YOU WITH IT,
     SORRY''
2050 GOTO 2060
2060 END
```

* * * * * * *

OSBAUD with MODEM7 and AMCALL

by Jonathan Owens

The OSBAUD hardware baud rate generator by Advent Products allows you to set by switches baud rates from 50 to 19200. This is very useful for high speed direct computer to computer transfers, transferring data to printers with buffers, and connecting external terminals through the serial port. I have also used it to allow connection of my Osborne as a terminal to other computers. In order to get the available baud rates, Advent Products instructs you to SETUP all of your disks to 1200 baud. If you set to 300, you get one fourth of the desired baud rate.

This brings up the only problem I have encountered to date with the OSBAUD. The problem was with the communications programs MODEM7 and AMCALL. Both of these programs set the Osborne baud rate to 300 (default) baud automatically. With MODEM7, there is a command that allows you to set the baud rate to 1200, but AMCALL does not. Under MODEM7, you can change the baud rate at the command string level (ie. A>modem7 t.1200) or under the (T)erminal or (E)cho mode using the ^B command. I have modified the copy of MODEM7 I use to default to 1200 baud, with the option of changing back to 300 by the above commands. (The version I started with is on FOG/UTL.001, including the header with the baud rate setting information.) Now with MODEM7 and a null modem I can transfer data thru my serial port at 19200 baud. AMCALL works only with the COMM PAC 300 baud modem, so the computer must be at 300 baud to access the modem. When AMCALL automatically sets the baud rate to 300, all is well IF YOU DO NOT HAVE OSBAUD! If you DO have OSBAUD installed, when AMCALL sets the baud rate you get 1/4th the baud rate set on the OSBAUD switches. For example, if the OSBAUD is set to 300 baud you get 75 baud (300/4) actual. In order to bypass this problem, set the OSBAUD to 1200 baud. (This would also work with MODEM7, but limits the maximum baud rate to 19200/4=4800 baud.)

In conclusion I recommend the OSBAUD for any one who needs to transfer data directly from computer to computer (ie OSBORNE to North Star Horizon) or anyone that uses the serial port with a printer buffer (this includes printers with internal buffers.) The problems of software that resets the baud rate to 300 can solved by either modifying the software to set the baud rate to 1200, or setting the switches to 4 times the desired baud rate.

[*As has been reported before, you should be aware that installing an OSBAUD device requires soldering and other physical alteration of your Osborne main PC board. Doing this will void all warranties that I know of. Also, if you ever need to have your board replaced, the swap price may be four times as much.*

I don't mean to put down the OSBAUD, every one I know that has one, loves it. But, I feel the need to add the above warning. David]

Jonathon Owens is President of the Affiliated Member Organization, KAOS. For information on joining this group, contact Jon at 1093 West 320 South, Orem, UT, 894057

* * * * * * *

DDT Hint Revisited

by Frank Dunaway

In the December ***FOGHORN***, Brian Rau described what has to be a widespread frustration — especially among those of us who work in hexadecimal arithmetic only sporadically. We aren't comfortable with ABC's in our figures.

Hex notation sometimes leads us to make a mistake in copying the figures, too. We seem to transpose digits and letters more more easily in a mixed string than we do in a string made up totally of one or the other. This problem crops up in Brian's article in that he indicates that he needs to find the difference between A030 and 0100 (9F30). The calculations shown provide the difference between 0A30 and 0100 (0930).

But, this is not meant to be a note on transpositions and typos. I do want to point out a capability of DDT that will do the calculations for us.

Our friends at Digital Research built the "H" command into DDT to do this arithmetic for us. The "H" command directly calculates and displays both the sum and the difference of two hex numbers. It is used to as follows:

At the DDT prompt (-), enter

H<ending address>,<beginning address><CR>

For the examples above, the screen will look like this:

```
-HA030,0100
A130 9F30
-H0A30,0100
0B30 0930
```

⇨

You still have to convert the result to a DECIMAL number of HEX pages in order to use it in the SAVE command under CP/M, but — for me, anyway -- the "H" command makes the overall task a lot less troublesome.

While DDT is most often used in program debugging, I happened to pick this up from "Saving Your ASCII — Recovering Lost Files" (***Portable Companion***, April/May 1983, pp. 74,75). This was so helpful to me that I keep a photocopy of the page on recovering WordStar files in the top drawer of my computer desk so that I can refer to it when I get the message:

```
Bdos Err on B: Bad Sector
B>
```

. . . but that's a subject for another note. . .

* * * * * * *

Printing With the Smith-Corona Memory Correct III Messenger

by Charles F. Wellen

The following is some data that may be of help in configuring the RS 232-C port for the Osborne 1 to run the Smith-Corona Memory Correct III Messenger typewriter-printer (as well as the Smith-Corona Ultrasonic III Messenger) with the "Messenger Module" attached.

I used the RS 232 (25 pin) male plugs from Radio Shack (276 1547) and hoods (276 1549) and some 8 wire TV rotor cable that I had on hand, a good flexible 5 wire cable will do as well.

Connect the pins from one plug to the other as follows:

COMPUTER PLUG		PRINTER PLUG
PIN 1	(GROUND)	NOT CONNECTED
PIN 3	-------TO---------	PIN 3
PIN 4	-------TO---------	PIN 4
PIN 7	-------TO---------	PIN 7
PIN 20	-------TO---------	PIN 20

The pin 1 connection at the computer end is used as a shield, and not connected at the printer end, but snipped off so it won't contact anything.

The DIP switches in the "Messenger Module" are to be set as follows: on DIP switch # 2 (the left one) all are ON except # 6 switch which is OFF. On DIP switch # 1, (right-hand one) all are OFF except # 4 & 6 which are ON.

Turn the type-writer-printer on, hit the CODE and P, and start printing.

The printer will support the WordStar Underline (^PS), Boldface (^PB), Doublestrike (^PD) functions, tabs and margins. The "Messenger Module" also has the parallel connector, but I needed it configured for the serial port, as I use the IEE 488 port to drive my Epson. I made a separate WordStar disk for the Serial printer INSTALLed as follows: backspacing: TTY-like printer "Xon/Xoff" protocol and CP/M output driver: (LST:).

On the SETUP configuration, I have STANDARD SERIAL on A, 1200 BAUD on B, 128 SCREEN SIZE on C AUTO HORIZ ON on D, my pet SFK KEYS on E, and WordStar on F.

With the separate WordStar disks for parallel and serial printers, I can work up the text with either disk, and save it on the B: drive. When I wish to print the file, press RESET, (BOOT WordStar, putting either the parallel or serial disks in, depending on which printer I will print on) turn on the printer and print.

I hope the above will be a help in trying to set up the printer (I fought it for several days).

* * * * * * *

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The Osborne Primer was written under contract to a national publisher, and submitted on the same day O.C.C. filed Chapter 11. The publisher decided that in view of O.C.C.'s difficulties, a book on the Osborne 1 and Executive could not be profitable. I believe the publisher was wrong, and that Osborne owners still want information about their machine. (If I'm wrong, I'll be eating spaghetti for a long time -- printing is expensive!)

The Osborne Primer is 173 8-1/2" x 11" pages (letter-quality printout) full of how-to information. Though it was written mainly for the new Os-1 owner, even experienced Os-1 and Executive owners will find it useful. Subjects covered include WordStar (techniques and patches), SuperCalc, dBASE II, Personal Pearl, telecommunications with Comm-Pac, hints and kinks on a variety of subjects, 13 program evaluations, and Osborne-related suppliers with evaluations of some of their products. Also included is a CBasic billing program which I use in my business, and a loan amortization program done in MBasic and in CBasic to demonstrate the differences between the two languages.

The Osborne Primer, by David C. Goodfellow, is available at $15 post paid from --

THE DATA MART
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(206) 242-1146

VISA or MASTERCHARGE — Please include card number and expiration date.

CHGCHAR.COM —
Change Character Program

by Al de la Torre

I wrote this assembly language program originally to simplify data transfer between Supercalc 2 and dBASE II. The particular problem I encountered was the fact that dBASE II delimited character strings with single quotes. The SDI (super data interchange) program which comes with Supercalc 2 had no problem converting the data. The problem arose as a result of the single quote delimiters, which when used as the first character of a cell entry in Supercalc, repeated the data following it in every blank cell to the right.

The obvious solution to this problem was to use the "find and replace" option in wordstar. This worked but necessitated swapping disks and going through the interminable wordstar "boot". Not to mention the problems encountered when the remaining available disk space is less than the size of the file being modified.

I recommend placing the CHGCHAR.COM file on the Supercalc file disk.

Its operation is outlined as follows:

COMMAND LINE SYNTAX:

ASCII CHARACTERS:

To use the program from the CP/M prompt type:

CHGCHAR d:filename.typ A>B

where d:filename.typ is any valid CP/M file name, A is the ascii letter you wish changed, > instructs the program to look for ascii characters, and B is the letter which will replace all occurrences of A throughout the file.

NOTE: There should be NO spaces between the parameters (A and B) and the >.

NON-ASCII CHARACTERS:

I included the capability to find and replace any non-ascii character simply by specifying the two digit hexadecimal equivalent of the character using the following command line syntax:

CHGCHAR d:filename.type 00#ff

where everything is the same as above with the exception of the exchange parameters specified, # instructs the program to look for hexadecimal characters, 00 can be any hex character in the range 00 to ff, and ff will be the replacement character (which will replace all occurrences of the first parameter 00) it also can be any character in the range 00 to ff.

NOTE: There should be NO spaces between the parameters and the #.

THIS PROGRAM DOES NOT PRODUCE A BACKUP FILE OF THE ORIGINAL! This allows you to modify files of any size without worrying about whether or not there is enough disk space.

SAMPLE COMMAND LINES:

CHGCHAR SAMPLE.TXT '>"

will change all single quotes (') to double quotes (").

CHGCHAR B:SAMPLE.TXT 0D#8D

will change all "hard" carriage returns to "soft" carriage returns. This will allow you to reformat files with the ^B option.

This program uses only standard CP/M function calls and will therefore work with both CP/M and CP/M+. (Works on Osborne 1 and Executive).

The accompanying file chgchar.asm is the assembly language source code for this program. I heavily commented it to assist other beginning assembly programmers like myself. If some area of the code needs clarification I'll try to explain it if you wish. H (305) 653-2871, W (305) 374-2730.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

Care must be taken when modifying ascii characters in a wordstar file created in "D" document mode. If a soft space has been inserted next to a letter, what has actually happened is that the high bit of that letter has been turned on or "set". For instance the normal hexadecimal representation of the letter A is 41. However if a soft space has been inserted the "A" will still appear normal when viewed with wordstar but will actually be represented by C1 hexadecimal. Therefore if you use the command line syntax CHGCHAR SAMPLE.TXT A>S these "soft space A's" will not be changed. There are two ways around this problem. First is to use the hexadecimal command mode and invoke the chgchar program twice the first time to change all normal letters, in this case:

CHGCHAR SAMPLE.TXT 41#53

And the second time to change all high bit occurrences of the letter, in this case:

CHGCHAR SAMPLE.TXT C1#53

The second way around this problem is to strip every high bit using the Z option and piping the file to itself, then using the normal command line syntax.

It should be noted that upper to lower case conversion of a particular character is not possible using the ascii command line syntax. The reason for this is that since the parameters are given from the CP/M command line; the CCP changes all characters to upper case before putting them where the chgchar program can use them.

```
;
; CHANGE CHAR-program to change specific character in a file to a dif-
; ferent character
; written by
; Al de la Torre - Nov 1983
;
conin       equ     01h         ;console input
conout      equ     02h         ;console output
bdos        equ     05h         ;bdos entry
prints      equ     09h         ;print string
reads       equ     0ah         ;read string (console buffer)
openf       equ     0fh         ;open file
closef      equ     10h         ;closes file
readsq      equ     14h         ;read sequential record
writsq      equ     15h         ;write sequential record
makef       equ     16h         ;makes sequential file
readrnd     equ     21h         ;read random record
writrnd     equ     22h         ;write random record
fcb         equ     5ch         ;file control block address
dma         equ     80h         ;default dma address
del         equ     0ffh        ;delete character
lf          equ     0ah         ;line feed character
cr          equ     0dh         ;carriage return character
rndrec      equ     fcb+33d     ;random record byte


            org     100h

            lhld    6h          ;reset stack pointer
            dcr     h           ;
            sphl                ;
 ;
 ;get ascii parameters for character exchange
            lxi     h,80h       ;location of command buffer
            mov     b,m         ;command tail length
            mvi     a,3eh       ;look for >
 firstl:                        tl
            inx     h           ;increment hl
            cmp     m           ;
            jz      strchar     ;
            dcr     b           ;decrement count
            jnz     firstl      ;continue till done
 ;
 ;get hexidecimal parameters for character exchange
            lxi     h,80h       ;location of command buffer
            mov     b,m         ;command tail length
            mvi     a,23h       ;look for #
```

⇨

```
secndl:
        inx     h       ;look at next byte in command tail
        cmp     m       ;is it #
        jz      storec  ;
        dcr     b       ;
        jnz     secndl  ;
        jmp     noparm  ;couldn't  find  >  or  #  (no
                        parameters)
;
;store hexidecimal values for exchange
storec:
        mvi     c,2h    ;put counter in c
store:
        mvi     b,2h    ;put counter in b
strhex:
        dcx     h       ;convert numbers entered to hex
        mov     a,m     ;get digit
        sui     30h     ;see if 0-9
        jm      noparm  ;is it < 0, if yes invalid parm
        cpi     10d     ;is it > 9
        jm      addto   ;yes, so it's a digit (0 to 9)
;not digit, maybe it's a letter
sui
7h
;convert ascii letter to hex
cpi
0ah
;is it < 0ah
jm
noparm
;yes
cpi
10h
;is it > 0fh
jp
noparm
;yes
;
addto:
push
h
;save pointer to hex digits
lxi
h,to
;get address of ``to'' parameter
ora
m
;''or'' new digit
rlc! rlc!
rlc! rlc
;shift left 4 bits
mov
m,a
;put hex pair in ``to''
pop
h
;restore pointer
dcr
b
;
jnz
strhex
;get next digit
dcr
c
;first pair of digits
jz
doit
;no,so go use parameters in xchange rtn
push
h
;save pointer to hex digits
lxi
h,to
;exchange ``to'' and ``from''
mov
a,m
;
lxi
h,from
;
mov
m,a
;
lxi
h,0h
;clear ``to'' back to zero
shld
to
;
pop
h
;restore pointer
        inx h! inx h! inx h! inx h! inx h ;point to second poir
        digits
        jmp     store
;
;store parameters subroutine
strchar:
        dcx     h       ;set pointer to first character
        mov     a,m     ;get it in a
        sta     from    ;store it
        inx     h       ;set pointer to next character
        inx     h       ;
        mov     a,m     ;get it in a
        sta     to      ;store it
;
doit:
        mvi     a,00h   ;zero extent for open file function
        sta     fcb+12d ;
        mvi     c,openf ;open file
        lxi     d,fcb   ;
        call    bdos    ;
        inr     a       ;check to see if file present
        jz      nofi    ;
        mvi     a,00h   ;set random record area to 0
        sta     fcb+33d ;
        sta     fcb+34d ;
        sta     fcb+35d ;
;
nextrec:
        mvi     c,readrnd ;read record
        lxi     d,fcb   ;
        call    bdos    ;
;
;check for attempt to read past eof
        ora     a       ;00 in a if successful read
        jnz     done    ;
;
;parameter exchange
        lxi     h,dma   ;put pointer in hl
        mvi     b,128d  ;put counter in b
        lda     from    ;put first parameter in a
```

cont. on page 40

```
loop:
            cmp     m           ;compare with byte of file
            jnz     next        ;
            lda     to          ;replace with second parameter
            mov     m,a         ;
            lda     from        ;reload a with first parameter
next:
            inx     h           ;get next byte
            dcr     b           ;decrement counter
            jnz     loop        ;do until done
;
;store updated record
            mvi     c,writrnd   ;write record to disk
            lxi     d,fcb       ;
            call    bdos        ;
            lhld    rndrec      ;get random record byte
            inx     h           ;increment it
            shld    rndrec      ;put it back
            jmp     nextrec     ;
;
;no file subroutine
nofi:
            lxi     d,nfmesg    ;no file message in de
            call    print       ;print it
            jmp     0h          ;back to cp/m
;
;no parameter subroutine
noparm:
            lxi     d,parmmsg   ;load message to print in de
            call    print       ;print it
            jmp     0h          ;back to cp/m
;
done:
            mvi     c,closef    ;close file
            lxi     d,fcb       ;
            call    bdos        ;
            lxi     d,suces     ;load message address in de
            call    print       ;print it
            jmp     0h          ;back to cp/m
;
print:
            mvi     c,prints    ;print string function
            call    bdos        ;
            ret
;
parmmsg:    db      'PARAMETERS NOT SPECIFIED OR IMPROPERLY SPECI-
                    FIED $'
nfmesg:     db      'NO FILE WITH THAT NAME FOUND ON DISK $'
suces:      db      'FILE SUCCESSFULLY ALTERED $'
from:       db      0h
to:         db      0h
;
            end
```

Al de la Torre is Vice President of the Gold Coast Osborne Group (GCOG), an Affiliated Member Organization located in Miami. For information about joining the group, write to P. O. Box 570609, Miami, FL, 33157 or see the **CALENDAR**

* * * * * * *

ATTENTION

Page 2 of every ***FOGHORN*** is reserved for membership information. Please refer to it for the additional postage charges for 1st class and non-U.S. delivery of the ***FOGHORN***.

How to Get 19200 Baud and Other Serial Port Options

Jonathan Owens

The following data was sent to me by Osborne Computer Company Technical Support Group, when I asked about programing the serial port. (Part of the Osborne information was published in the June 1983, ***Portable Companion***.) I was attempting to set the port to "9600" baud as was done using information from a RBBS I saw long ago. The program I wrote from the "Ostricks" file from the RBBS tried to set the baud rate to 19200, but the tolerances were off, giving a baud rate of about 18000 on my single density Osborne 1. After getting my double density upgrade, the program would not work at all, even when I changed the address to match the new BIOS. This system described below did work properly on my double density machine, however, I have not tried the 19200 baud on BIOS 1.3 again, so it may still give a baud rate outside of tolerances.

If you need a high speed serial port, and 19200 will work with your other equipment, (my other computer was limited to 9600 baud, so I got an OSBAUD) this is worth a try. Also, if you need other word length or parity, this will work properly at 300 and 1200 baud on either a single density or a double density machine.

The other options available require cutting traces on the mother board, thus voiding any warranty. Among these options are the OSBAUD hardware Baud Rate generator, and hardware modifications as shown in the Osborne 1 Technical Manual. Since the OSBAUD can be obtained for about $60.00 and requires much less work to install, I recommend it to anyone who needs or wants switch selectable baud rates from 50 to 19200 baud.

[*See* OSBAUD With MODEM7 and AMCALL *and my note of caution, at the end, in this same section. David*]

Programming the Serial Port

The following is a program to set the serial port's baud rate, data word length, and parity. It writes directly to the Motorola 6850 ACIA, the serial support chip. The changes made from running this program remain in effect until the system is reset. To make the change permanent, follow the procedure on the page following this one. Put a CP/M utility diskette in drive A and a formatted diskette in drive B. In the following program the user input is shown **BOLD**, while the computer output is `in this face`. Regualr type is reserved for explanation.

```
A> DDT<cr>
DDT VERS 2.2
- A100<cr>
0100 LXI H,10E<cr>
0103 LXI D,5000<cr>
0106 LXI B,18<cr>
0109 .<cr>
- S109<cr> (S is used to input any Z80 hexadecimal opcode value
           not recognized by DDT. This is the Z80 opcode for
           "LDIR")
0109 59 ED<cr>
010A 52 B0<cr>
010B 49 .<cr>
- A10B<cr>
010B JMP 5000<cr>
010E DI<cr>
010F OUT 0<cr>
0111 MVI A,0<cr>
0113 STA EF08<cr>
0116 MVI A,xx<cr> (xx is the control code for the 6850, see table
                  below)
0118 STA 2A00<cr>
011b OUT 1<cr>
011D MVI A,1<cr>
011F STA EF08<cr>
0122 EI<cr>
0123 JMP 0<cr>
```

➩

```
124 .<cr>
- ^C (Enter control-C)
A> SAVE 1 B:SETBD.COM
```

You now should have a program called "SETBD.COM". To make the serial port modification invoke the program as follows:

```
A> B:SETBD<CR>
```

Permanent BIOS Change

In order to make the change permanent, you need a formatted diskette in the B drive, and the following CP/M utilities on an otherwise blank diskette with system tracks in the A drive:

1. DDT.COM
2. SYSGEN.COM
3. MOVCPM.COM

NOTE: This modification is for the "1.3" BIOS. If you have a late model OCC1, or have the double density option installed, you may have a "1.4" BIOS. See note on the next page for details.

If you have a 1.3 BIOS use **MOVCPM 60 *** and **CPM60.COM** as indicated below; else, substitute **MOVCPM 59 *** and **CPM59.COM** in the case of a 1.4 BIOS.

```
A> MOVCPM 60 *<CR>
CONSTRUCTING 60K CP/M VERS 2.2
READY FOR ''SYSGEN'' OR
''SAVE 39 CPM60.COM''
A> SAVE 39 CPM60.COM<CR>
A> DDT CPM60.COM<CR>
DDT VERS 2.2
NEXT   PC
2800  0100
- S1FE9<cr>
1FE9 55 XX<cr> (xx is the code you are inserting)
                     1FEA 80 .<cr>
- ^C
A> SYSGEN<cr>
                    Operating System Generation Program
                       OSBORNE COMPUTER SYSTEM ONE
                              REVISION 1.5
SOURCE drive (A or B) <CR>
-------------------------------------------------
DESTINATION (A,B or RETURN to exit) B
Put DESTINATION diskette in B,
then press RETURN <CR>

-------------------------------------------------
DESTINATION (A,B OR RETURN TO EXIT) <CR>
```

You now have a modified operating system (BIOS) with a new default value for the serial port. When you boot with the diskette in the B drive, you will load the modification.

Which BIOS do You Have?

If you don't know the answer to that question, do the following in order to find out which BIOS you are working with.

Boot up your utility system and then:

```
A> DDT<cr>
DDT VERS 2.2
- D0000

0000 C3 03 E5 (etc.) .. .. .. .. ..
0008 (etc.) ▲

     OR

0000 C3 03 E1 (etc.) .. .. .. .. ..
0008 (etc.) ▲
```

You should see something like one of the above, if in the third location following the 0000 there is an E5, you have a 1.3 BIOS; if there is an E1, then you have a 1.4 BIOS.

Table of 6850 Control Codes

(NOTE: The 19200 baud rate data is not supported by OSBORNE, and was not included in the table I received. These codes use a 6850 clock divide ratio of one, which may not work properly on some machines. Jon Owens)

data bit	parity	stop bit	baud rate	xx Hex
7	even	2	19200	40
7	odd	2	19200	44
7	even	1	19200	48
7	odd	1	19200	4C
8	none	2	19200	50
8	none	1	19200	54
8	even	1	19200	58
8	odd	1	19200	5C

data bit	parity	stop bit	baud rate	xx Hex
7	even	2	1200	41
7	odd	2	1200	45
7	even	1	1200	49
7	odd	1	1200	4D
8	none	2	1200	51
> 8	none	1	1200	55
8	even	1	1200	59
8	odd	1	1200	5D

data bit	parity	stop bit	baud rate	xx Hex
7	even	2	300	42
7	odd	2	300	46
7	even	1	300	4A
7	odd	1	300	4E
8	none	2	300	52
> 8	none	1	300	56
8	even	1	300	5A
8	odd	1	300	5E

> Denotes the two standard configurations

NOTE: For further information on the codes, consult a Motorola 6850 specification sheet.

November 1, 1982
System Technical Support Group
OSBORNE COMPUTER CORPORATION

* * * * * * *

System Tips

by Alan T. Chattaway

Here are a few more tips gleaned from experience. They may be obvious to some, but should prove very valuable to others!

1. YOU CAN COUNT ON WORDSTAR!

WordStar can count the characters in your file; just type Control-OP to toggle the display of FC=*characters* and FL=*lines* (from start of file to present cursor position). But it apparently can't count the words. And of course writers often have to know how many words are in a document.

Faced with this problem recently, I invented a method of using WordStar to count the words in a file. Essentially it consists of formatting the file so there is just one space between words, then counting the spaces! First save your file to disk in the desired format (because you're about to change it on the screen), then apply this technique:

a. Toggle justification off (Control-OJ) and hyphenation off (Control-OH) if these were on, then jump to the top of the file (Control-QR) and reformat everything (Control-QQ-Control-B). This removes soft spaces so there is only one space where you typed only one.

b. You may still have such things as two spaces between sentences, five or more spaces for paragraph indents, and invisible "hanging" spaces at the ends of paragraphs. To remove these, use the search-and-replace function:
   Type **Control-QA**
   Specify the string to be found as five spaces.
   Specify the replacement string as one space.
   Specify the option as NG (replace everywhere without asking)

   This will replace every group of 5 spaces with just one. Repeat this (it doesn't take long) for 4, 3, and 2 spaces. By this time all long strings of spaces will have been reduced to single spaces.

Note: The Control-R function "restores" the same answer previously used, when answering the questions to specify a search. This can save time here.

c. Now the counting begins! Although WordStar can't actually count the total occurrences of a specified string, it can find the nth. occurrence when you specify n. So my technique begins with a guess. Knowing the file has 100 lines, I guess it may have about 1000 words. My interaction with WordStar goes as follows:
   Control-QR (start at top of file)
   Control-QF (find a string)
   Specified string: a single space
   Options: **1000** (find the 1000th space)

   WordStar blinks for a moment, then stops about 6 lines from the end of the file. My guess was too low!
   Control-QR; **Control-QF**; space; **1100**

WordStar responds "NOT FOUND...Press Escape" My guess was too high...try again!
   Control-QR; **Control-QF**; space; **1050**

This time WordStar puts the cursor a few words from the end. I use Control-F to jump a word at a time, counting out loud "1051, 1052, 1053, 1054". The cursor has landed on the last word. Since there are 1054 spaces before it, it must be the 1055th word in the file. That's my answer!

2. DUAL COLUMN FORMATTING WITH WORDSTAR 2.26

WordStar 3.3 allows you to rearrange text into two columns per page before printing. Our 2.26 version doesn't do this, but I have a technique that's nearly as good. For a 65-column page with 3 spaces between columns, I set the right margin at half of (65-3) = 31, then format my text as two pages. For the first page I set the "page offset" or printed left margin as .PO 10 (counting from the left edge of the paper) and then for the second page as .PO 44 (that's 10, plus 31 to clear the first column, plus 3 for the gap between columns). Now I go ahead and print; in between printing page 1 and page 2, I reinsert the same piece of paper into the printer. I get two neat, aligned columns properly centered and justified.

Page numbering is a slight problem; I turn it off. The alternative is to type .PC 16 (page number column) at the top of the document and have each column get its own centered page number. Owners of tractor-feed printers could patch WordStar's "finishing string" to perform a reverse form feed, then print page 1 and page 2 separately.

3. VIEWING WORDSTAR FILES WITH "TYPE"

WordStar files written in the "D" (document) mode with justification turned ON are stored with the last letter of each word subtly altered. Also, the "soft" carriage return created by WordStar at the end of every displayed line is not quite the same thing as a true carriage return. So, if you've ever tried using TYPE from the CP/M level to view a WordStar file, you'll see strange things: soft carriage returns appear as big dots, while the last letter of each word is underlined and the text has lost its format and appears all over the screen.

I needed to view some files while away from my printer; I had to see whether the page layout was correct. The WordStar toggle Control-OD turns off the display of your control characters, but in some cases (for example, use of Control-PH to overstrike two characters, or Control-P(Return) to overstrike a whole line) not even Control-OD can show you the page layout as it will ultimately be printed.

The solution was a little-used option of PIP. If you invoke PIP in the usual way and then type:

```
B:VIEW.TXT=B:YOURFILE.DOC[Z]
```

then the content of the WordStar file, YOURFILE.DOC, is copied into the new file VIEW.TXT with the following important changes:

a. Soft spaces between words become hard spaces.
b. Soft carriage returns at line ends become hard.
c. VIEW.TXT is now a "standard" file as far as TYPE is concerned.

If we now return to the system level and at the A> prompt we type:

```
TYPE B:VIEW.TXT
```

we will see the contents of YOURFILE.DOC laid out exactly as WordStar will print them on paper. Overstruck characters will appear as the last one struck. I found this invaluable for checking the final page layout without having a printer handy.

4. "UNFORMATTED DISK" ERRORS

A recent column in the ***FOGHORN*** referred to a rash of "Unformatted Disk" errors following upgrade or repair work. I had the same experience after my 80-column upgrade, but found the cure.

The symptoms:

a. Some disks gave "Unformatted Disk on Drive A", either at boot-up or (worse!) later on.
b. The same disks were good in drive B.
c. If I wrote to them, these disks gave the "bad sector" message and became unusable. Worse, they could not be reformatted without errors in Drive A -- but all was well in Drive B.
d. Finally, a new disk could actually be heard to STOP TURNING in its jacket, while the motor continued to run!

Here I finally realized my problem was uneven disk speed: it accounted for the boot-up problem; a bad write would mess up the sectors, making the disk unusable; formatting would fail too; and the latest problem clinched it — Drive A was slipping!

As a test, I booted Drive B (by typing " instead of Return) WITHOUT a disk. I put my finger through the Drive B door and found I could not stop the hub turning by pressing on it. Drive A was a different story! — light pressure brought it to a jerky stop. Aha! I thought, the drive belt is slipping.

When my dealer opened up my Ozzie, it was even simpler than that. On my Siemens drives (maybe the MPI's too), the hub is attached to a large belt-driven pulley by a SINGLE SCREW in the center — there's no keyway, splines, or pins to lock them together, so if the screw gets loose the pulley turns properly but the disk slips. A few turns of a hex wrench put everything right.

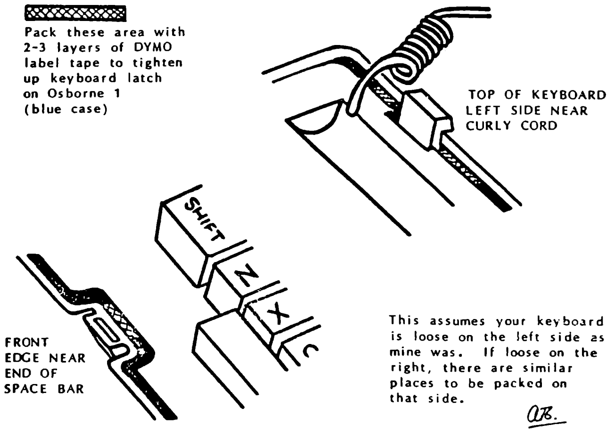
The dealer said this was "not the first" he'd seen. So, if you get lots of errors on one drive, try my finger test first. You may save a lot of time and money!

5. KEYBOARD LATCH FIX

My blue case Ozzie, like others, had a loose fit of the keyboard latch at the left end, and could be knocked off while travelling. After studying it, I decided the cure would be to stretch the latch parts on the keyboard further apart. I achieved this by packing 2 or 3 layers of "Dymo" or "Apsco" labelmaker tape (it's very thick) between the dark grey and light blue parts of the keyboard — see enclosed sketches.

This is a repair anybody can make. If you are nervous about opening the keyboard you can pry the two parts open from outside and slide the tape into the crack. However, the keyboard has no active components inside, is not delicate, and can be opened in seconds with an ordinary Phillips screwdriver. My keyboard now latches securely — yours can too!

Pack these area with 2-3 layers of DYMO label tape to tighten up keyboard latch on Osborne 1 (blue case)


TOP OF KEYBOARD LEFT SIDE NEAR CURLY CORD
SHIFT
Z
X
C
FRONT EDGE NEAR END OF SPACE BAR

This assumes your keyboard is loose on the left side as mine was. If loose on the right, there are similar places to be packed on that side.

OB.

6. AN "ON" LIGHT FOR OZZIE

Ever since I got my 80-column board, I use the external monitor exclusively at home. I keep my Ozzie's internal monitor turned down to save the phosphor, but sometimes I forgot it was turned on! What I needed was an "ON" light. But I didn't want to tamper inside the case.

I found that the 20-pin shorting plug in the "EXT VIDEO" socket (next to the RESET button) provides ground on the first pair of pins (counting from the left), and 10 volts on the fourth pair. I was able to mount an LED on top of this plug (with a resistor tucked out of sight below) so that it glows whenever my Ozzie is turned on. No more problems!

7. DEC RAINBOW TRANSFER VIA INTERMEDIATE FORMAT

My employer selected the DEC Rainbow 100 for our office and I was faced with transferring all the work I'd done and was still doing at home on my Ozzie to the Rainbow's odd 80-track format. Fortunately I have a friend who — apart from being a true genius, and an officer of our Vancouver Portable Computer Club — owns both an Ozzie and a Rainbow and had already solved this one.

He gave me some disks that had been formatted on DEC's VT-180 (a conversion of the VT-100 terminal to a personal computer). The Ozzie can write to these, while the Rainbow can read (but not write) them. Problem solved! This may be applicable to other transfer problems — there may be an intermediate format acceptable to both machines.

8. "LADLE RAT ROTTEN HUT" — A REPLY

This was the funniest thing I've read in a long time. I hope the moral of the story is clear: every word in this file would have been approved by SpellStar! It may not have been very technical, but I hope we see more things like it in future ***FOGHORN*** s.

9. FINALLY

I would like to see an independent review of "Drive C"; what has to be done to our operating system to address this extra memory, and is it as trouble-free as the ads claim?

Keep up the good work. My annual $40.00 (Canadian) FOG membership is one expense I don't regret in the least!

* * * * * * *

SuperCalc Quickie

In using SuperCalc to do my accounting spreadsheets I learned that if I first do my vertical lines, using the :, /R (replicate) and /P (protect), and then make the horizontal lines, using '-, the horizontal lines will appear all across the spreadsheet and not erase the vertical lines. When I did the reverse, the vertical lines would get erased even if they were protected.

— from an unknown member

* * * * * * *

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John Gaudio is an electrical engineer holding two U.S. Patents on computer systems. He's been a consultant to Osborne Computer Corporation and has written several articles for their magazine, The Portable Companion. He continues to write regularly for the newsletters of the First Osborne Group and the Denver Osborne Group, and has spent the last two years helping people to get more from their Osborne Computers. Survivor's Life Line is a Trademark of J. Gaudio Company.

MBASIC ERROR MESSAGES

CODE	MESSAGE	CODE	DISK ERRORS
1	NEXT WITHOUT FOR	50	FIELD OVERFLOW
2	SYNTAX ERROR	51	INTERNAL ERROR
3	RETURN WITHOUT GOSUB	52	BAD FILE NUMBER
4	OUT OF DATA	53	FILE NOT FOUND
5	ILLEGAL FUNCTION CALL	54	BAD MODE FILE
6	OVERFLOW	55	FILE ALREADY OPEN
7	OUT OF MEMORY	56	DISK NOT MOUNTED
8	UNDEFINED LINE	57	DISK I/O ERROR
9	SUBSCRIPT OUT OF RANGE	58	FILE ALREADY EXISTS
10	REDIMENSIONED ARRAY	59	SET TO NON-DISK STRING
11	DIVISION BY ZERO	60	DISK ALREADY MOUNTED
12	ILLEGAL DIRECT	61	DISK FULL
13	TYPE MISMATCH	62	INPUT PAST END
14	OUT OF STRING SPACE	63	BAD RECORD NUMBER
15	STRING TOO LONG	64	BAD FILE NAME
16	STRING FORMULA TOO COMPLEX	65	MODE-MISMATCH
17	CAN'T CONTINUE	66	DIRECT STATEMENT IN FILE
18	UNDEFINED USER FUNCTION	67	TOO MANY FILES
19	NO RESUME	68	OUT OF RANDOM BLOCKS
20	MISSING OPERAND		
21	RESUME WITHOUT ERROR		
22	UNPRINTABLE ERROR		
23	LINE BUFFER OVERFLOW		

— Thanks to David Haldeman]

* * * * * * *

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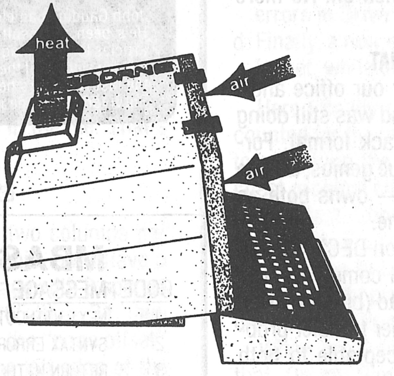

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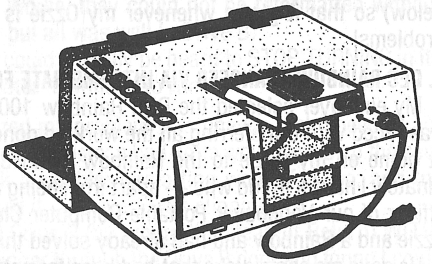

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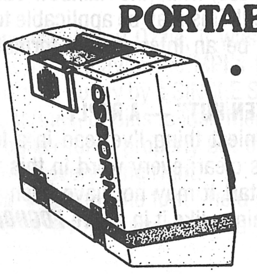

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dBASE II

Save Space in dBase II

by Forrest Wilcox

I submit the following tidbit about dBase II. I am a new member of the group so I do not know if what I have is new, but I have not seen it published elsewhere.

I have found that dBase uses unnecessary disk space for its command and data files. It seems dBase does not recover disk space when files are shortened.

Disk space may be recovered as follows:

1) Make a backup copy of the dBase disk.

2) Put a CP/M disk with the DDT utility in A (left) side, and the dBase disk in B (right) side. Press the 'RESET' button and 'RETURN' key.

3) Type **DDT B:FILENAME.TYP<cr>** (of course you substitute your file name for FILENAME including the file type, .COMM, .DBF)

4) Underneath the word NEXT and over the prompt on the screen you will see a memory address (in hexadecimal), write it down. I'll use WXXX for this address.

5) Type **D0100,WXXX<cr>** and be prepared to stop the scrolling with the ^S key. The screen data will scroll up and show memory values in hex and at the right of the values will be the equivalent data in ASCII english. Follow along until you find the end of your program and immediatly following a series of '1A 1A 1A 1A'. There may be a few or a lot.

6) If you know how, fill out with '1A' until a 'page' boundary, of type WXFF (02FF,0AFF,29FF,etc).

7) Note the above boundary address and figure how many blocks the file is using by counting each W as 16 blocks and each X as 1 block.

8) Get the DDT prompt back by scrolling to the end or by pressing the space bar twice, and a <cr>.

9) Type **^C** to get the CP/M A> prompt.

10) In the following replace BB with the number of blocks determined above, and FILENAME with your filename and type, e.g. .DBF. Type **SAVE BB B:FILENAME.TYP<CR>**

You may want to review a bit about the hex addresses and number system before doing this but, that's it.

* * * * * * *

Fishing for Mackerels in the dBase II Sea or Using dBase II MACROS and Osborne 1 Function Keys

by Mark Scaramella

With some hopefully unwarranted trepidation, I am going to offer a tip to get around the problem of having to double space dBASE II commands when using the Osborne 1 function keys for dBASE II commands. This is somewhat of a fishing expedition in unknown waters for some of us, involving dBASE II memory variables and dBASE II's MACRO SUBSTITUTION capability. If you like, you can use the tip without understanding it entirely, or you can look into it further to get your own idea of what's going on.

I need to introduce some concepts before describing the tip.

I am going to assume that you know about the Osborne 1 Function keys and how to use SETUP to define them. See previous ***FOGHORN s*** for examples.

Now, let's assume that you want to define the function keys as a series of dBASE II commands which you use regularly so that you don't have to type them out each time you give that command. Let's suppose that after some thought you decided that the following commands should be defined as 9 function keys:

DISPlay FILEs LIKE *.*
DISPlay MEMOry
DISPlay NEXT 10
EDIT #
COPY TO TEMP
APPEnd FROM TEMP
DISPlay STRUcture
MODIfy STRUcture
QUIT TO 'XDIR','DBASE B'

After reading the dBASE II manual, you would know that you only have to give the first four characters of a command to dBASE (the characters capitalized above) for any given command. Then you would discover that for a reason I don't fully understand, only every other character in a function key is used when running dBASE II. So you would have to type in your commands with spaces between every character and that they would have to look like this:

```
D I S P   F I L E   L I K E   * . *
D I S P   M E M O
D I S P   N E X T   1 0
E D I T   #
C O P Y   T O   T E M P
A P P E   F R O M   T E M P
D I S P   S T R U
M O D I   S T R U
Q U I T   T O   ' X D I R ' , ' D B A S E   B '
```

Well, if you've used the function keys very much with single or double density machines, you would immediately realize that the 9 commands shown above are a total of 217 characters (counting all the spaces between the letters in the words. Even a mackerel could tell that 217 is a lot more than the 85 characters that can be used for functions keys. Now you have the "choice" of which of these handy commands you can do without.

Or do you?

Now for the "Fishin" for mackerels (MACROs) with Function keys...

Definition of Memory Variables:

A memory variable is a location in internal memory (RAM) which you or your dBASE II program can use to store things that can change on request ("variable" information). In dBASE II you can use almost any variable name as long as it's regular alphanumerics (regular letters and numbers) or a colon, and the first character is not be a number and the total length of the memory variable name is not more than 10 characters. You can create memory variables with such dBASE II commands as STORE, ACCEPT, etc. See the dBASE II manual for further information. Example:

```
STORE 'DISP FILE LIKE *.*' TO A
```

would STORe the command associated with displaying all disk files into a memory variable called "A"...

Get the idea?

Let's STORE the commands we listed above to memory variables for fun...

```
STOR 'DISP FILE LIKE *.*' TO F1
STOR 'DISP MEMO' TO F2
STOR 'DISP NEXT 10' TO F3
STOR 'EDIT #' TO F4
STOR 'COPY TO TEMP' TO F5
STOR 'APPE FROM TEMP' TO F6
STOR 'DISP STRU' TO F7
STOR 'MODI STRU' TO F8
```

cont. on page 46

```
STOR ''QUIT TO 'XDIR', 'DBASE B''' TO F9
```

Now, let's DISPlay MEMOry to see what we got...

```
DISP MEMO
F1       (C) DISP FILE LIKE * *
F2       (C) DISP MEMO
F3       (C) DISP NEXT 10
F4       (C) EDIT #
F5       (C) COPY TO TEMP
F6       (C) APPE FROM TEMP
F7       (C) DISP STRU
F8       (C) MODI STRU
F9       (C) QUIT TO 'XDIR', 'DBASE B'
** TOTAL **        9 VARIABLES USED   00116 BYTES USED
```

I have avoided using one letter memory variables even though they might save a little space since 1) some dBASE II reserved functions are 1 letter long (T and F) and 2) because it will be easier to tell that the memory variables are functions keys.

Now we can use MACRO (mackerel) SUBSTITUTION to 'call' these commands while in dBASE II. But first, let's talk about these mackerels (MACROs) for a second.

MACRO (Mackerel):

Page 19 of the second part of the version 2.3b dBASE II manual states:

"Whenever an ampersand (&) followed by the name of a character string memory variable is encountered in a command, dBASE replaces the & and memory variable name with the memory variable's character string. This allows the user to define some parts of a command once and call it out any number of times in various commands."

OK, fine. Now what do we do with this information? Why not "call" the MACROs (mackerels). For example:

HERE MACKERELS!!
(Just Kidding)

Actually "CALLing" the MACRO would simply be:

&F1 <Carriage Return>

```
B        .CMD        CAT      .NDX        COUPONS .DBF
DAD2     .FRM        DAD3     .FRM        DATE    .NDX
MAILLIST.DBF         NSWEEP   .COM        PRODCAT .NDX
X        .CMD        BRIDGE   .BAS        FORTH   .COM
MACROS   .BAK        TEMP     .TXT        MACROS  .TXT
```

and dBASE executes the command "DISP FILE LIKE *.*" as we would expect since that was the command we stored in the memory variable "F1".

That's not bad. Now all we have to do is type "&F1" or "&F2", etc. followed by carriage return and the appropriate command will be entered. Now that we have these commands in memory we should save these memory variables on disk so that we can use them again later. For reasons I will explain later, we should save them on the A: drive. So...

SAVE TO A:MACROS

and dBASE II will save the current memory variables (their names and their contents) in a file called MACROS.MEM on the A: drive. (dBASE II will add the ".MEM" to the file name since it knows that they are memory variables by the format of the SAVE command). Now if we want to see that in fact they are saved on the A: drive we can say:

CLEAR

to erase them from internal memory (RAM); followed by:

RESTORE FROM A:MACROS
DISPlay MEMOry

and they will appear as above (or as they were entered).

So now that they are saved on disk, all we would have to do is have a way to load them when we start dBASE II. Fortunately, this is fairly easy. We use a command file which is executed when dBASE II is initially entered. A command file is simply a file of dBASE II commands which is executed when desired. By putting together a series of commands you are actually programming in dBASE II, and dBASE II is actually designed for such programming. So let's write a simple command file. I strongly recommend that you do not use dBASE II's built in command file editor. It has bugs and might put junk in your file making it worthless. So I recommend using WordStar for writing command files. Use the non-document mode to create a command file called "B.CMD". CMD is the file extension that dBASE II recognizes as a command file. Enter the following short dBASE II commands into this file called B.CMD:

ERASE
RESTORE FROM MACROS
SET DEFAULT TO B
ACCEPT 'DATE' TO MDATE
SET DATE TO &MDATE

This is a sequence of commands to ERASE the screen, RESTORE the memory variables (with our commands in them) from the file on the A: drive called MACROS to internal memory, SET the DEFAULT drive to B (so that we do not have to enter the "B:" in front of file names when dealing with data on the B: drive, ACCEPT (ask you for) the date to another memory variable called MDATE, and set the system date to whatever you enter as MDATE.

Save the file after you are finished entering the commands with ^KD, then hit "R" at WordStar's "no-file" menu and type "DBASE B" (or "DO B" if you have renamed dBASE II to "DO") in response to the "COMMAND:" prompt. This will run dBASE II and automatically execute the commands in "B.CMD".

You should see dBASE II's sign-on message and after a couple of disk whirrs dBASE should ask for the DATE which you can enter in the normal mm/dd/yy format. This short method does not validate your date entry as does the normal sign-on method. If you prefer, you can leave out the last two lines of the command file and start dBASE II in the normal way, enter the date in the normal way and then, after you get the DOT PROMPT type "DO B" which will then execute the three remaining commands.

Now you have a way to automatically load the nine memory variables with the common commands whenever you start dBASE II. Now all we need is the final connection: the FISHIN' (Function) keys. I'm sure that if you have read this far you probably know how to define the function keys, but I'll summarize the function key entries here for reference: (<cr> means hit the carriage return)

KEY NO.	ENTRY
1	**& F 1 <cr>**
2	**& F 2 <cr>**
3	**& F 3 <cr>**
4	**& F 4 <cr>**
5	**& F 5 <cr>**
6	**& F 6 <cr>**
7	**& F 7 <cr>**
8	**& F 8 <cr>**
9	**& F 9 <cr>**

Don't forget the extra space between each character that you enter including the <cr> (carriage return).

Now when you return to the CP/M's A> prompt after completing the SETUP of the function keys, type DBASE B (or whatever, as before). After entering the date, try function key 2 (^2) which should be the DISPlay MEMOry function key. If all goes well the memory variables should be listed with your commands shown. Assuming you haven't made any typing errors or other minor errors all of the function keys should now work except for ^0 which I didn't use for dBASE (it's reserved). Of course, for the commands that require a file to be in use, you will have to have a file in use. The commands still

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have to be used in the proper way.

A side benefit of this approach to function keys is that you can change or redefine them without leaving dBASE II by simply saying, "STOR '(new command) to (letter). No need to use SETUP. And, if you like your changes, you can SAVE them TO the MACROS memory variable file as above.

Notes for Advanced Users:

If you are an advanced user you may realize that you could take this concept one step further and use function keys to DO command files. You may also realize that this technique has the one drawback of using up some memory variables. I have found that this is not a particularly significant problem on the Osborne 1 since the kind of large applications which use most of the 64 available memory variables are not normally run on an Osborne. If you need the memory variables for a particular program, you can "RELEASE ALL" in your program before you define them or RESTORE them; then at the end fo your application, simply RESTORE FROM A:MACROS and the function keys will be ready to go again.

This "tip" has gone on long enough for now. I will leave my reasons for using this particular group of commands in the memory variables/function keys and my suggestions for other possibly handy commands, including command files, to a future article. If you are more than a casual dBASE II user, this capability should come in handy. If you have any questions, I can usually be reached at (408) 280-2552 weekdays in San Jose.

GOOD LUCK!

* * * * * * *

dBASE II — Don't Give Up on Report Forms

by Ron Coiner

The report form capability of dBASE II is an easy way to display data on the screen or the printer. When you first try it, you may find it confusing and not very flexible for your needs, but it does save a lot of time if you do data base work. Following are some hints that you may find useful.

You can edit the report form file with the dBASE text editor, although I was led to believe that you either used a text editor like WordStar or you deleted the file and started over. Since the report form file is less than 77 characters wide, does not have tabs and is a very short file; you should not have any troubles with the dBASE text editor. If you had previously made up a report form file, say it is on the "B" drive and you called it INVOICE, it will automatically be given the ".FRM" suffix. If you add the ".FRM" suffix and do not have a report form file, this will start a new file; although it is a lot harder this way. You can modify it at the "dot" prompt using the text editor by calling for:

MODIFY COMMAND b:invoice.frm
or
MODI COMM b:invoice.frm

By calling out the file name with the ".FRM" suffix you allow the text editor to obtain the correct file to modify. If you do not put the suffix on the file name, the editor will look for a file with the ".CMD" suffix, and will start a new command file if you do not have a file B:INVOICE.CMD on the drive.

When you are editing the report form file, look at examples in the instruction book to understand what the various lines stand for. One thing not obvious is that the first line is reserved for any changes in margins, lines/page and page width. If you used the defaults, the line will be blank. If you did not use the defaults, you will see what you typed in. Remember to use CTRL-W to save the file.

You can space the field headings most any way you want. The use of the "<" before the heading text will left justify the heading, ">" right justifies it, and adding spaces between "<" and your heading text will left justify your heading and add spaces in front (as in "< heading"). If when you want to better space the fields, especially character fields on the left side, you can enter "width,'   '+date" in the "WIDTH,CONTENTS" reply block and get the number of spaces you enter in quotes placed in front of the field variable, in this case you would space the contents of date over 5 spaces from the normal position. Make sure you give yourself enough width for the field and the spaces. You can also use the macro substitution, "&" for field names or headings if you want to set up a general report and make up your command file for these variables. Since you can go back and edit the report form file with the dBASE text editor, it is fairly easy to make changes to get what you want. The above hints for spacing fields also work for DISPLAY and LIST commands.

You call the report form by:

REPORT [FORM <form file>][<scope>][TO PRINT][PLAIN]

You can store the report form name, if you want to use more than one report form in your program, in a memory variable (such as MREPORT) and use the commands:

```
* report file b:invoice.frm is one report file
STORE ``b:invoice`` TO mreport
* the report form command does not have to occur right away, as long as
  you do not store anything else in mreport, RESTORE, other otherwise
  RELEASE mreport.
*
*
*
REPORT FORM &mreport
```

Suppose you wanted to take the user through several choices in order to define the scope of the report. The following is an example to give you some idea how this might be done.

```
* REPORT.CMD 03/04/84 Report Print Command File
USE b:customer
* b:customer is a data file with orders, shipments and other info
*
STORE ``FOR shipped .AND. .NOT. invoiced `` TO mcond
* FOR starts the scope of the conditional statements. Shipped and
* invoiced are logical variables this assures that the report is only
* for customers that have had goods shipped but not invoiced.
*
INPUT ``Do you want a specific customer (T/F)'' TO mcust
IF mcust
   * mcust is logical, if TRUE the statements to the next ENDIF are acted
     upon.
   *
   INPUT `` Enter customer number'' TO mcust:no
   * each invoice record has customer number stored as ``cust:no''
   *
   STORE ``&mcond .AND. cust:no=mcust:no `` TO mcond
   * this adds a condition to what is in mcond.
ENDIF mcust query
INPUT ``Do you want a specific year (T/F)'' myear
IF myear
   INPUT `` Enter last two digits of year'' TO myear2
   *  Date stored as MM/DD/YY with field name ``date``. Command
   *  $(date,7,2) extracts year from ``date'' field. Function
   *  str(myear2,2) converts number to string, as $ and str functions
   *  both result in strings.
   STORE ``&mcond .AND. $(date,7,2)=str(myear2,2) `` TO mcond
ENDIF myear query
* assuming you are finished with the choices:
REPORT FORM b:invoice &mcond
RETURN
```

If you want to give the user a choice of screen or printer, you can store the command in a memory variable and use it as follows:

```
STORE `` `` TO mprint
? ``Do you want to display on P)rinter or S)creen?''
WAIT TO choice
```

cont. on page 48

```
IF !(choice) = ''P''
   * The !( ) function changes choice temporarily to upper case for
   * comparison. User can enter either case and get a correct response.
   *
   STORE ''TO PRINT'' TO mprint
ENDIF
REPORT FORM b:invoice &mprint
```

This will put the command "TO PRINT" at the end of the "REPORT FORM" command if the user has chosen the printer output. It will put nothing at the end if the user has chosen the screen (or any response other than "p" or "P"), allowing the output to go to the screen.

To combine all the above in a report form command, use:
REPORT FORM &mreport &mcond &mprint

I keep finding more and more way to use dBASE II commands. I hope that you find dBASE II useful for your work or play. Now, anyone know of a compiler for the dBASE II command files, or any way to speed up the command structure other than being very careful to write efficient command programs?

Ron Coiner of Pittsburgh TROG is owner of COINER COMPUTER SYSTEMS, a small business assistance firm.)

* * * * * * *

dBASE II 80 Column Patch Version 2.4

by Ashton Tate

This patch allows dBASE II to show 80 columns rather than 52 on the Osborne 1 computer with the 80 column update kit. This patch assumes both DDT.COM is on drive A: and DBASE.COM is on drive B:.

Version 2.3b

```
A>DDT B:DBASE.COM<cr>
NEXT  PC
4800 0100
-S130<cr>
0130 05 01<cr>
0131 1A .<cr> The "." is important!
-S154<cr>
0154 80 50<cr>
0155 18 .<cr>
-S395A<cr>
395A 3A C9<cr>
395B 5A .<cr>
-^C

A>SAVE 70 B:dbase.com<cr>
```

Version 2.4

```
A>DDT DBASE.COM<cr>
NEXT  PC
4D00 0100
-S39E3<cr>
39E3 3A C9<cr>
39E4 5A .<cr>
-^C

A>SAVE 76 DBASE.COM<cr>
```

dBASE II 2.3b, 2.4 (8-bit)
Technical Support Note # 28.1
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FOG MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

EXECUTIVE LIBRARY NOTES APRIL 1984

By Jim Switz

This month brings much news for Executive owners. As you know, the March issue inaugurated an Executive column to provide a place for non-library information covering hardware, software, fixes and anything else people are interested in writing about. The past few weeks have brought solutions to problems which have been plaguing Exec owners. Many of you have conveyed to me problems with the screen display, the external monitor port, the printer ports and some software bugs. Most of these have been resolved one way or another, and I encourage all of you to write to us with your contributions; many of the fixes are the result of individual efforts.

Unfortunately, I may not have been clear in my offering to copy files for those of you who send library or ***FOGHORN*** contributions. I've received disks from many people requesting copies of the Exec library (with no submissions enclosed), and have copied those for disks received to date, but please understand that with over 11,000 FOG members now, I just can't offer a blanket copy service. This is due to my time constraints as well as the fact that my poor disk drives are already smoking most of the time (I have about 1500 hours on my machine); time spent copying disks takes away from my library and Exec research efforts.

I am happy to copy any disks you want in return for your contribution of ***FOGHORN*** Exec articles or library submissions, and of course still welcome correspondence if I can help with problems; I will answer all letters as best I can. By the way, first-class mail is just fine for mailing disks; there's no need for registered or insured (which requires a trip to the Post Office), just make sure disks are securely wrapped in stiff cardboard.

Fortunately, I make the above comments knowing that you will not be left out in the cold. There are several ways of acquiring copies of the FOG disks: the local Affiliated Member Organizations (AMO's) generally have all or part of the FOG library available (write the office for the location of those nearest to you if you are not an AMO member), and disks are available for purchase at cost directly from FOG; see the inside front cover of this or any ***FOGHORN*** for details. Even at $5.00, the software on any disk in the library is a bargain.

Also, many of the latest files are on the FOG RBBS/RCPM system if you have a modem (415 755-2030); I know it's busy 98% of the time, I have a hard time getting my messages from it, but FOG is working on setting up other systems.

There is another way I can help distribute the FOG library. In the course of my business, I travel a fair amount, both here in the States and Internationally. From now on, I will travel with the complete FOG library (both Osborne 1 and Exec), and will contact in advance the closest AMO's to my destination to arrange a copying session, if desired. In return, I only require from you intimate knowledge of the best fried chicken, barbecue (hello, Kansas City?), Mexican or Chinese food in your area (open to other suggestions, of course).

This idea came to me in February, as I spent a very pleasant day with Burt Fielding and Chuck Buchheit of the Santa Maria Osborne Group, trading software and stories. I have a fairly regular travel schedule each year to New Hampshire, Guam, Hawaii, Seattle and

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many California cities, so let's hear from you if you're interested!

One more little bugaboo; this relates to copying files on the back side of "single-sided" disks. I use "flippies" to back up the Exec library, and know people who use them extensively (including my Dad) with apparent success. I've been asked my opinion on the subject, and though not an expert, my response is go ahead and do it IF: you use quality disks, keep them clean and don't use them for absolutely critical files.

There's still a glitch, however; I've found that Verbatim disks absolutely refuse to format on the back side, and sometimes lock up mechanically, so don't send me Verbatims if you want flippies in return. That's the only brand I've found so far which won't work--Memorex, Dysan, Radio Shack, Maxell and some no-names I've been sent seem to work just fine. The following is not to be construed as an ad or endorsement, but Memorex disks are relatively inexpensive, and FOG uses thousands of them without problems. This surprised me, as I think Memorex audio and video tapes are suitable only for wrapping Christmas gifts and starting ues.

I'm almost finished here.....please hang on. For you curious Osborne 1 owners out there, yes, a large part of the Executive library should run just fine on your machines, and I encourage you to experiment and let Jim Woolley know what works, as I can't test this, being Osborne 1-less.

In particular, MBASIC programs without PEEK's and POKE's, dBASE II files and Supercalc overlays should have no problems (except that Supercalc overlays will only work on the same or higher version of the program on which they were created; see my March column for details).

Finally, a personal plea. Frank Morton was kind enough to sell me his D-Cat modem, but frankly, after three months I'm growing old fast watching files transfer at 300 baud. Those who have been reading this column know that most of what goes in the library comes to me via modem, and I've got to get a 1200 baud modem going here. There are some files on the Piconet and other systems I can't even download because their size would run way over the typical one-hour on-line limit at 300.

Being of very limited means, I'm looking for a used 1200/300 baud modem at a reasonable price; it doesn't have to be a Hayes or even smart, but I do need Bell 103/212A compatibility, and need to be able to use MODEM712 through my Exec's RS-232 port. So if anyone out there wants to unload such a beast at a price I can afford, please contact me. You will have the undying gratitude of a person getting to bed at midnight instead of 3 am!

Once again, please address correspondence to me at the following address:

2435 Tamalpais St. Mountain View, CA 94043or call (415) 968-3356 evenings and weekends before 10pm, if possible.

This month, two disks have been added to the Executive library:

-FOG/EX1.011

BOLDFACE.CQR, BOLDINVR.CQR AND INVERTED.CQR are all squeezed character files created by Clark Wood in San Pablo, CA, using the CHARGEN utility supplied with the Executive. As the names indicate, these files create boldface, inverted boldface and inverted normal characters on the Exec display. Instructions for installing them can be found in CWOODDSK.DQC. This squeezed document file also discusses tips and observations about the Exec.

DOCINDEX.DQC is a squeezed text file, also submitted by Clark, which indexes the CP/M 3.0 commands both by page number in the Reference Manuals and by disk number.

FREE30.DOC, written by Kenji Nakadegawa, discusses the 'free space remaining' function of CP/M 3.0, and how it differs from CP/M 2.2. Kenji has submitted XDIR37 (see below), which implements this function correctly. This DOC file will be of interest to those people interested in modifying other programs, such as SWEEP, to correctly perform the function.

MODEM720 is the latest version of Ward Christensen's terrific modem program. This is the latest update (see MODEM712 on -FOG/EX1.001), and was written by Irv Hoff of Los Altos, CA. Version 720 cleans up some rather obscure bugs, but also implements code to permit operation of the program with the fairly new Anchor Automation Signalman Mark XII modem, which is gaining popularity due to its' low cost. The program still supports Hayes and other modems, both smart and dumb, and the command syntax is unchanged. I do not have the capability to test the smartmodem versions, but anticipate no problems.

MODEM720.COM is already set up for the Exec using a dumb (non-auto-dial) modem, and SMODM720.COM is set up for smartmodems. The squeezed overlay file, M70X-1.AQM, and the bare MDM720.COM file is provided for those who wish to further customize the program. A summary of the last few versions is provided in MDM720.MQG, but the only complete set of documentation available to me is from MODEM716, and consists of MDM716.DQC, MDM716.IQF, MDM716.MQG AND MDM716.UQD. A quick look at this version indicates no great differences, but I will place the MODEM720 documentation in the library as soon as I get it. The phone number overlay file, M7NM-5.AQM, is provided, but I suggest using RENUM.COM from -FOG/EX1.010; it's much quicker and easier to use.

PORTCOMP.DBF and TPCDIREC.DBF are dBASE II database files indexing the Portable Companion magazine, and were submitted by Burt Fielding of the Santa Maria, CA, Osborne Group (SMOG). Both contain the same data, but PORTCOMP is sorted on the article category field, and TPCDIREC is sorted on the software type field. The report form TPCDIREC.FRM is included to print a labeled report if desired.

QUIZ.BAS, from Garry Irvine of South Queensferry, Scotland, is an MBASIC program designed to test knowledge by creating a database of word pairs. It is set up very simply as a German/English quiz, but can easily be modified to test History, other languages or other subjects.

TYPING.BAS, also from Garry Irvine, is designed to test your touch-typing accuracy, and is self-prompting, with success rate calculated and displayed. The characters to be tested and level of difficulty are requested by the program.

XDIR37 is a fully-functioning extended-directory utility written by Kenji Nakadegawa (see FREE30.DOC, above). The squeezed source code is provided in XDIR37.AQM.

-FOG/EX1.012

Note: Many thanks to David Whorf for helping to check several of the programs on this disk for proper operation on the Executive.

CALENDAR will print a calendar for any given year; at the prompt, type:

CALENDAR xxxx<ret>

where xxxx is any four-digit year.

CHEK will examine a file and provide CRC information, as well as number of characters and number of sectors in the file. To use, type:

CHEK d:filename.typ<ret>

where d is the drive where the file resides.

DEMO.LBR is a collection of dBASE II demonstration files obtained from the Piconet RCP/M in Mountain View, CA. These demonstrate graphics/plotting capabilities of dBASE, and require the dBASE II program to run. Persons knowledgeable in dBASE II programming techniques may find the .CMD files useful to pick up programming tips. To use at the dBASE dot prompt, type:

DO DEMO<cr>

DIFF will compare two files and list any differences between them.

DIRCHK will provide verification information about the logged disk directory.

DUCK.BAS is an MBASIC game of the shoot-'em-up variety with pretty good graphics. The program will display instructions if necessary. It was written by Peter H. Kelly (see the ***Portable Companion*** magazine April/May 83) and submitted by Dr. Marius Ianconescu of Davis, CA.

cont. on page 50

LISTT is a printing utility which allows many formatting options, and is more convenient than WordStar for quick printouts. To use, type:

LISTT d:filename.typ<ret>

the program will prompt for various parameters.

RPN, by David Brower, is an integer-only screen calculator which will interest programmers, as it has the capability to work in ASCII, Hex, Octal and Decimal. It uses Reverse Polish Notation, and has a stack which consists of 30 16-bit words. Documentation is in RPN.DOC, and the source code (written in BDS-C) is in RPN.CQ.

TAXTMPL is a set of 8 Supercalc files, consisting of TAXTMPL.DQC and seven overlays, which will aid in calculating 1983 tax returns. They were written by John E. Olson II of Anchorage, AK last year and updated for this year's forms by Richard J. Switz (except for Schedule G, which has not been updated). Instructions are provided in TAXTMPL.DQC.

TYPER is a simple utility which lets you type directly to the printer from the keyboard; note however, that backspaces may not be handled correctly by your printer. It's potentially useful for envelopes and other quick tasks. To use, simply type: TYPER<ret>. A control-Z will terminate the program.

Note: Squeezed files (those with a Q as the middle character of the filetype) may be unsqueezed using USQ-19, on -FOG/EX1.002. Library files (those with a filetype .LBR) may be extracted using DELBR, on -FOG/EX1.003.

See you next month!

* * * * * * *

EXECUTIVE

External Video Fix for the EXECUTIVE

By Jim Switz

Like many of you, perhaps, I have been very satisfied with the performance and capabilities of my Executive, but have a few nagging problems with some of its' peculiarities. For me, one of these has been the inability of the external video port to work correctly with monitors connected to it.

Research into the as-yet-unreleased Executive Technical Manual (the FOG office has one very preliminary copy) reveals that the monitor port is designed to the RS170 standard, and the manual states that the computer should be used only with an external monitor which conforms to this standard. Well, either monitor manufacturers don't bother to conform (the manuals I've read are mum on the subject), or the Executive really doesn't conform, or whatever.

In any case, I tried my Executive in stores on various monitors, including Taxan, USI, Amdek, Zenith, Sanyo and lots of no-name brands. They were able to handle the video output to varying degrees, ranging from fair to unacceptable. The problems seem to fall

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VERTISEMENT

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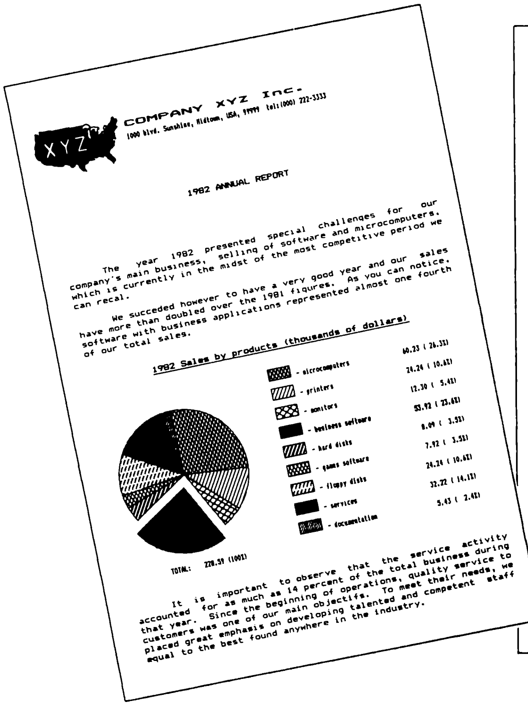

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1982 ANNUAL REPORT

The year 1982 presented special challenges for our company's main business, selling of software and microcomputers, which is currently in the midst of the most competitive period we can recal.

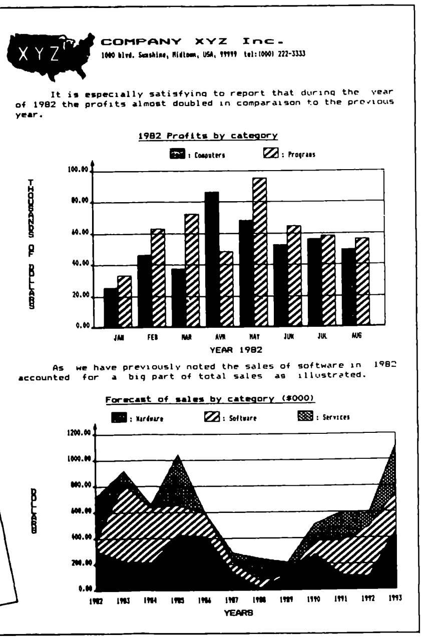
We succeded however to have a very good year and our sales have more than doubled over the 1981 figures. As you can notice, software with business applications represented almost one fourth of our total sales.

1982 Sales by products (thousands of dollars)

microcomputers	60.23 (26.3%)
printers	24.24 (10.6%)
monitors	12.30 (5.4%)
business software	53.92 (23.6%)
hard disks	8.09 (3.5%)
games software	7.92 (3.5%)
floppy disks	24.24 (10.6%)
services	32.22 (14.1%)
documentation	5.43 (2.4%)

TOTAL: 228.59 (100%)

It is important to observe that the service activity accounted for as much as 14 percent of the total business during that year. Since the beginning of operations, quality service to customers was one of our main objectifs. To meet their needs, we placed great emphasis on developing talented and competent staff equal to the best found anywhere in the industry.



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It is especially satisfying to report that during the year of 1982 the profits almost doubled in comparaison to the previous year.

1982 Profits by category

As we have previously noted the sales of software in 1982 accounted for a big part of total sales as illustrated.

Forecast of sales by category ($000)

Can you believe it? **Gorgeous,** *exploding* PIE CHARTS and **beautiful** GRAPHS mixed in with WordStar text! Custom letterhead LOGOS too!

Ruff Software, home of SuperGraphics, welcomes the newest member to its family of graphics software for the Osborne I. "REPORTMAKER" was written by the Krepec brothers in Canada and is, in our judgment, an outstanding work. Medium priced at $130, this exciting program offers excellent value for the money. Supported printers are Epson with Graftrax Plus, FX-80, Gemini 10 and 10 X and Okidata 92 and 93.

But we'll put your money where our mouth is. You can have 20 days to return it for a refund if you're not happy. Fair enough?

Send check for $130 to Ruff Software, Box 98, Plant City, FL 33566. **SPECIFY PRINTER and DENSITY** Osborne I only.

into two primary areas, gross overscan (loss of characters on either side of the screen) and dim characters which were extremely dim and usually unreadable. I have not doped out the overscan problem, but this can be somewhat compensated for with monitors which have a large horizontal size control range (and I mean Large).

I wanted a 9" amber monitor, which limited my choices considerably; I finally found that the USI Pi4 not only could be adjusted to compensate for the overscan (just barely) but had excellent display quality as well. This should not be interpreted as a USI sales pitch, but it met my needs.

Like all the other monitors tested, however, it had the dim character display problem; ie the dim characters were not visible when the normal character brightness was comfortable, and the normal characters bloomed into blobs when brightness and/or contrast adjustment brought the dim characters up to an acceptable level. Tweaking all the various controls (one of the nice things about the USI is that all parameters can be messed with from outside the cover) brought me close to my goal, so I took a chance and bought it, hoping that futzing with the computer would resolve the problem.

Hitting the Tech Manual again (after some clues from Brad Baldwin, ex-OCC employee; thanks Brad!) revealed that a resistor on the motherboard (R15, 100 ohms) controlled dim video brightness. Throwing caution to the winds, I disassembled the computer, removed the resistor and installed a 5K ohm potentiometer to play with the resistance value.

Eureka! Fooling with the resistance brought the dim brightness up without affecting the normal characters. I have settled on a value of 1000 ohms for the new R15, but the circuit is not that sensitive; I just happened to have that value in my junk box and I think a tolerance of + /- 10% or so won't affect things too much. Remember that this is for my USI, but I suspect it will work OK with other monitors since the problem was similar with most of them. I won't guarantee results with other units, since I don't have time to check them, but you could follow my route of using a pot first to determine your favorite value.

What follows, then, is a description of how to replace this resistor. The whole operation should take about 30-45 minutes, working carefully, unless you want to experiment with a pot or different resistor values. **CAUTION:** this operation requires that you know which end of a soldering iron to hold and have had some experience soldering circuit boards, and working around integrated circuits. It's not that difficult (heck, I'm a mechanical engineer and I did it!) but remember this is one expensive box, so if you're not sure you can do it, better get a knowledgeable friend to help.

Also, opening your computer and removing things will most likely void your warranty. This is not a problem with those of us who had OCC warranties, those documents went 4-paws-up with the Chapter 11; Xerox Americare-covered people better contact your Service Center, maybe they will do it for you or give you permission.

So, enough dancing around from me; go to it (but please don't set your soldering iron down on your Z80 chip while pondering your next move).

First, remove watches, rings and other jewelry; we're working with some static-sensitive components here, and paranoia in this area is good. I didn't use static cuffs or other gadgets because I don't know all the rules for this sort of thing, but common sense should prevail. I handled the circuit boards by the edges only (don't touch any chips), attempted to ensure that I was not carrying a static charge, and worked on non-metallic surfaces.

To disassemble your machine, remove the power cord, keyboard and knobs for contrast and brightness (they just pull off). Remove the five Phillips screws holding the blue bezel to the front of the machine, and lift off the bezel. Turn the computer upside down, and with a long Phillips screwdriver, loosen the five screws holding the case together. Carefully lift the bottom off, and set it aside.

(Note: the inside surfaces of the computer are spray-painted with a special RFI-shielding paint; take care not to scratch this coating, or TV viewing when the computer is on may never be the same!). Now remove the 4 screws holding the motherboard down; note that there is a grounding strap under one of them which must be replaced later.

Carefully (!) lift the main board a bit, holding it by the edges only, and take note of the three connectors on the underside, you may want to mark them for replacement later; I think they can be put on backwards if you're not careful. Disconnect these three connectors, lift out the motherboard, flip it over and set it down on a nonconductive surface like rubber or cardboard.

It starts to get tricky here, so proceed carefully. The small piggyback board containing the memory chips must be removed for access to our resistor target. Using a small pair of pliers, carefully squeeze the tops of the brown plastic pins which hold one end of this small board to the motherboard, while lifting gently on the board. This should free one end of the board. Gently lift the small board free by disconnecting the black connector with all the pins on the other side of the board. Set the small board aside in a safe place.

The resistor we're after (R15) is just behind and to the left of the reset button, when viewing the board from the front. It is part of a group of five resistors, and is the fourth one from the left, with colored stripes in the following order:brown, black, brown, gold. R16, next to R15 on the right, is colored the same, but is the one on the end; make sure you get the correct one, because the labeling on the circuit board is a little screwy. Using a low-wattage soldering iron (I used 25w) with a small tip, desolder this resistor carefully, without heating the resistor or other components unnecessarily.

Now, replace R15 with a 1/4 watt resistor of about 1000 ohms, or you may wish to put in two wires long enough to reach outside the machine for attaching a potentiometer; that's what I did at first.

That's it for the surgery, now reassemble the computer carefully; taking care not to miss the the piggyback board or the three connectors going to the motherboard. Put the bottom of the case back on, attach the front bezel, keyboard and knobs and take a deep breath. Boot up and load the SETUP program menu, retrieving the setup from either memory or disk A.

The reason for this is that you can bring up a menu displaying normal, dim and inverse video simultaneously, providing a good test of your new configuration. As this modification does not affect the built-in monitor, make sure you have your external monitor connected. If all went well, you should now be the proud owner of a functioning external monitor port, so congratulations! You hackers out there who put in a pot instead of a resistor will probably note that values above 2000 ohms or so don't seem to make much difference, but play around until you find a value you like, then put in a fixed resistor; I think leaving wires running to an external pot is asking for trouble.

For those of you who live in the San Francisco Bay Area, and feel that you need assistance with this modification, I will try to help, either by phone or in person. If enough interest is generated, perhaps we could set up a mass-modification session, doing a lot of machines at once. You can write to me at 2435 Tamalpais St. Mountain View, CA 94043 or phone (415) 968-3356 evenings and weekends before 10pm. I have a phone robot when I'm out, but my budget to return long-distance calls is virtually nonexistent.

Now, if only we had a fix for the overscan, my life would be complete. Anyone who has suggestions or a fix for this problem please let the ***FOGHORN*** know, or you can write to me. Happy Hacking!

* * * * * * *

The **First Osborne Group (FOG)** *does not endorse any of the products advertised in this publication. FOG does not verify the accuracy of the claims in any of the ads. You should thoroughly investigate any offers before buying.*

Please let FOG know of any difficulties encountered. Send all details, in writing, to the FOG office at P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474, U. S. A. We can't promise a solution, but we will try to help.

All articles contained in these pages are the views on the authors. Publication does not necessarily indicate endorsement by FOG, the ***FOGHORN****, or any of the officers.*

FOG MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS RELEASE
The 1st FOG of Silicon Valley Starts Applications Software Training Program for Members

The 1st FOG of Silicon Valley [the first FOG Affiliated Member Organization] has started a training program for the popular applications software running on the Osborne computers. Mark Scaramella a frequent contributor to the ***FOGHORN*** and an experienced user and instructor will be conducting the Training Programs. At present, the programs cover Introductions to WordStar, SuperCalc/SuperCalc2, dBASE II, and CP/M. Programs are available and inplace for intermediate and advanced levels of these programs and on the various ways of interfacing the three popular programs to get maximum benefit. Programs can also be available on MBASIC if interest dictates.

The programs will normally be conducted on Saturday afternoons in four hour sessions. At least four people (and normally not more than 6) have to sign up for a session to justify conduct of a particular course. Costs are $25.00 per Saturday afternoon session, which is quite a bargain compared with some of the comparable "slick training package" equivalents. The 1st FOG training programs are able to take advantage of the portability of the Osborne machines so that attendees can bring their own "Training Equipment". All of the programs are based on practical, hands-on usage of the applications programs with examples drawn from the attendees as much as possible.

Course outlines and descriptions of subjects to be covered are available at most 1st FOG of Silicon Valley meetings. Questions or requests for outlines, information, sign-up, etc. can be addressed to Mark Scaramella at most 1st FOG of Silicon Valley meetings or at (408) 280-2552 in San Jose.

So far the initial programs seem to have been quite successful and most Osborne users can expect to gain from the programs, particularly now that dealer support has dropped off. We will continue to publish updates about the training programs as appropriate. Mark has indicated a willingness to provide suggestions based on local experience to those of you outside the local area who may be interested in starting a similar training programs. Any suggestions or comments you may have about what should be covered or how the programs are conducted will be welcome.

This training program should help expand 1st FOG's general capabilities in providing members with the information necessary to get the most out of your computer investment. We recommend that you consider such training as an effective way to upgrade your skills.

* * * * * * *

INSURANCE INTERFACE

State Farm Insurance Agent using Osborne 1 in his agency to prepare quotes for home, auto, life and health insurance. Auto, home and health quotes are prepared by a custom designed Basic program. However, the life and health quotes are prepared using SuperCalc II with an especially created template.

I would like to correspond with others who have similar interest in the use of their "OZZIE" for insurance situations. TO ESTABLISH CONTACT, write to Rod Payne, Agent, State Farm Insurance Cos., 6107 Pacific Avenue, Stocton, CA 95207. Telephone (209) 951-4701 during regular business hours.

* * * * * * *

PRESS RELEASE

What do you know about accounting software? Are you doing your own books at home? In your business? Are you running a tax program on your personal computer? Are you a CPA?

The Whole Earth Software Catalogue wants to know what software you've found to be personally useful and why. We're trying to locate the best tools for home and office use. If you can recommend a program or help review one that you know well, drop a note to:

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Sausalito, CA 94965

or call:

Marsha Mather-Thrift
Accounting Editor
at (415)388-4651 (Messages 331-6249)

* * * * * * *

CP/M and COMAL?

I am seeking help to find a version of a CP/M implementation of the language COMAL. There is a Danish company, METANICS, which supposedly has such a version, but they don't answer my letters of inquiry.

William W. Schicht

* * * * * * *

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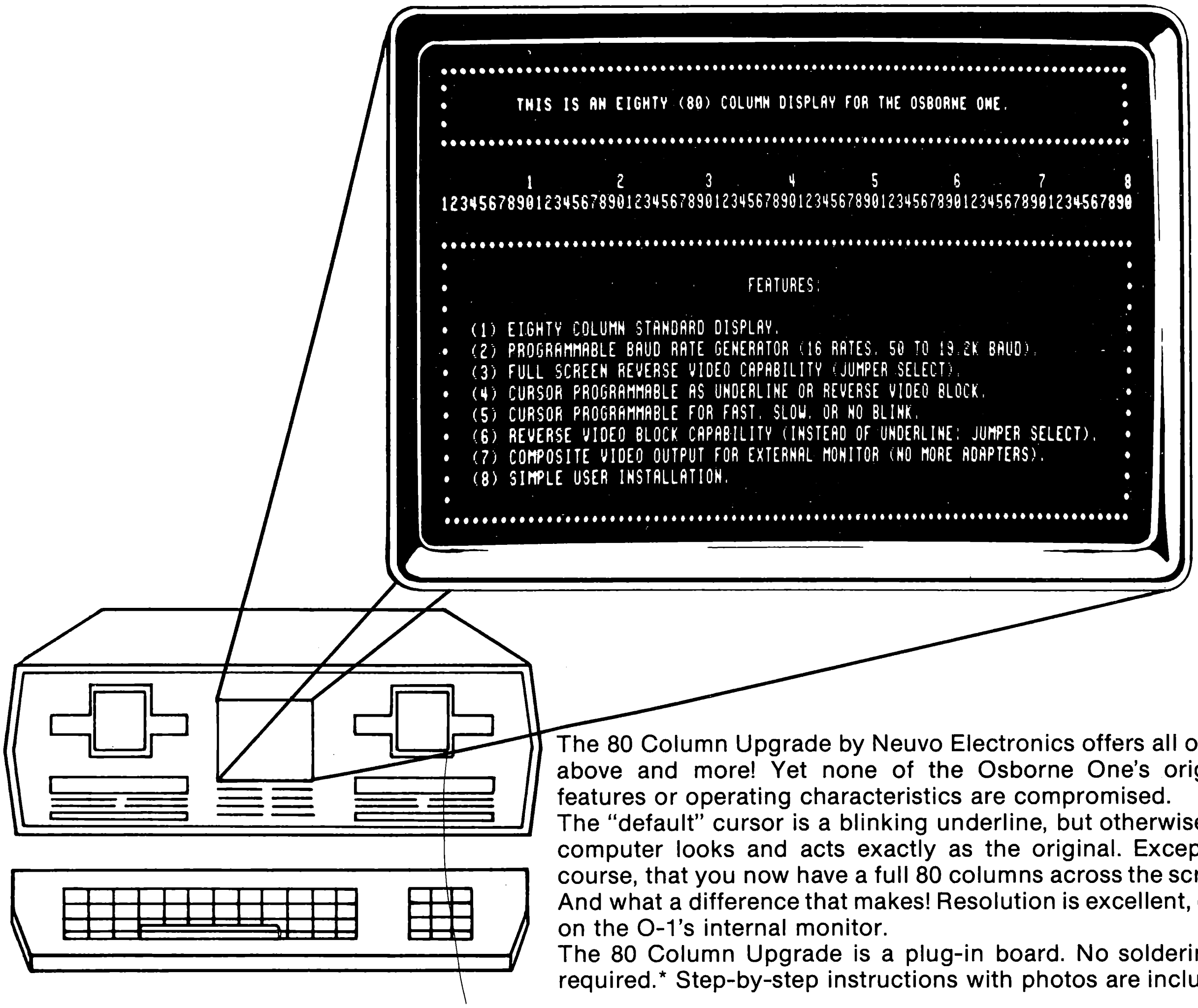

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OCC 1 Comm Pac	2B50000-00	$ 155		
OCC 1 Power Pac	2B60000-00	$ 125		
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FOG MEMBER MERCHANDISE

Price increase for UNIFORM is announced! The new price is $69.95. This program is no longer copy protected. We've have used a copy several times here in the office to send stuff to members and have been very happy with the results. We would like, though, to know what other users think.

We are apparently not going to be able to get SmartKey and SmartPrint any more. When existing stock is gone, orders will be returned. SmartKey2 and SmartPrint2 are still available and we anticipate no difficulty in obtaining these. We sure would appreciate a review of these two programs.

SmartKey2 is $89.95, SmartPrint2 is $49.95. If you get both at the same time, the price is $129.95.

As noted last month, C.I. Software has made their program HexPrintR® available to the membership. The price is $39.00. This program works with WordStar to give you full control over your dot matrix printer and was used in the article by Hanns Trostli (earlier in this issue) to create the Portuguese characters.

In December, we reported the addition of the book on WordStar by Tony Bove and Cheryl Rhodes. This book is a must for anyone looking for assistance in using WordStar. The price is $7.25.

One of the most popular items in the FOG inventory is the T-shirts with the FOG logo. These T-shirts are soft Osborne blue in color and are Hanes 100% cotton. They are cut large to allow for shrinkage. Sizes available are small (34-36), medium (38-40), large (42-44), and X-large (46-48). The price is $8.00 each (two for $15.00) for members and $10.00 each for non-members so be sure to include your membership number. Add $1.00 for shipping.

CP/M Extension Utilities were reviewed in Vol. I, Issue 10. Unprotect is an 8080/8085/Z80 machine language program which runs under CP/M. Its purpose is to decrypt Microsoft BASIC (Release 5) files which have been saved in a protected format. It is hoped that anyone buying and using this software will remember that this program should only be used to correct errors in PROTECTed files of which you have a legal copy. Please bear in mind that piracy is both illegal and a sure way to reduce the software available for your use.

We also have available a set of two cassette tapes which are designed for the new Osborne user. Created for a 1.2 rev. model Osborne, the tapes will be very helpful if listening to a step-by-step procedure is an easier way for you (or the family) to learn. The tapes are equally useful for a 1.3 or 1.4 rev. Osborne as the only real change the that the FORMAT program is now a part of the COPY program. (On the 1.2 rev. these were two separate programs.) The set of tapes are $25.00

California members please add sales tax to the cost of any of these items. Overseas members should add first class airmail postage to the cost of any of the FOG merchandise.

Prices on the merchandise are as follows:

SmartKey2 only	$89.95
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SmartKey1 only (remaining stock)	$60.00
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OCC-1 — Centronics cable	$39.95
6" X 4.5" fresnel screen enlarger	$19.95

To order any of these items, please send your payment to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. Please include your membership-account number. If shipment cannot be made, your check will be returned. We cannot sell the manuals separately.

* * * * * * *

The **FIRST OSBORNE GROUP (FOG)** has been formed as a User's Group for persons using or interested in portable computers and/or the CP/M disk operating system with related software. In September of 1983, there was over 5400 members from around the world. Most attend local group meetings at over 300 locations.

Computer systems owned or used by members include the Osborne 1 (single and double density), the Osborne Executive 1, all models of the Morrow MicroDecision, the Zorba, all models of the KayPro, several MicroMates, and many more. Special interest groups organized to augment a network of local group meetings include dBase II, Ham radio operators, Personal Pearl.

Dues in FOG are $24.00 per year. This entitles each member to a copy of the ***FOGHORN*** each month as well as access to the disk library. Local group meetings are open to the public without charge although most restrict access to the library to the membership. The FOG library contains only public domain software. Piracy (the copying of proprietary software) is strongly condemned.

In the United States, the ***FOGHORN*** is normally mailed by non-profit bulk mail. (FOG is a corporation in the state of California and has obtained its non-profit, tax exempt status from both the state and federal governments.) For those members who live out of the country or who prefer first class delivery of their ***FOGHORN***, additional postage must be added to the annual dues. See the chart on page 2 for details.

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